FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol III No 249 29 December 1986

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CHERNYSHEV LISTS COUNTERMEASURES TO SDI

LD271040 Moscow TASS in English 1037 GMT 27 Dec 86

["The Answer to SDI Will Be An Effective One" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 27 TASS -- Follows commentary by Vladimir Chernyshev, a TASS military news analyst:

Official Washington is trying to describe as contradictory the stand of the USSR declaring that it "is not afraid of SDI", but is at the same time strongly opposing the militarisation of outer space. Yet there is nothing contradictory about that stand. The USSR is firmly convinced that the aims set by the "Star Wars" adventurists of ensuring strategic superiority for the USA and the opportunity to unleash a nuclear war and go with impunity are unrealistic. In real fact, SDI is equally dangerous to all countries and peoples, including to the USA and the USSR. It is a danger to the whole civilization. That is why the USSR opposes in principle the "Star Wars" program.

The statements by the Soviet leadership law down the main principles in accordance with which our country will take counter-measures to create means of countering the space strike weapons, should the USA start deploying SDI. Soviet specialists have carried out a detailed research into that issue. Among the counter-measures there can be first and foremost a build up of the potential of strategic offensive weapons, in particular, through an increase in intercontinental land-based ballistic missiles and the number of warheads in these missiles. The USSR could build up such weapons (in particular, cruise missiles of various types of basing, and submarine launched ballistic missiles fired on flat trajectories), for the interception of which there are yet no adequate means.

To restore the balance of forces, measures can be taken to ensure a perfection of the capability of missiles to "penetrate" through the shield due to their protection from the effects of laser radiation, the use of maneuvering warheads, etc. For the barrage jamming of the ABM system; and misleading it, use can be made of a multitude of special equipment to camouflage missile launchings and the flight of warheads on trajectory (dummy targets, clouds of metal, aerosol clouds, etc.) and also devices for electronic jamming of the equipment and tracking of targets of the ABM system.

At last, but not at least, weapons can be created to destroy and neutralise the ABM system and its elements. The system of combat space platforms, which is created under the SDI program, will be highly vulnerable to various types of weapons. To hit the platforms use could be made of small missiles of various types of basing, laser weapons installed on earth and outer space, satellite "mines" put into orbits close to the orbits of combat space platforms and equipped with a sufficiently powerful charge detonated on order from the earth.

According to calculations, a complex system of measures and weapons of counteraction will cost a mere several percent of the cost of large-scale ABM system with space-based echelons.

But the main thing is that the counter-measures will parry the danger of a unilateral upsetting of the military strategic balance as a result of the deployment of SDI, and will ensure, in any type of nuclear attack, the remaining capability to launch a retaliatory counter-strike against the aggressor.

Washington's calculations that the implementation of the "Star Wars" programme will enable the USA to restore for itself the old times is nothing else but an illusion, an obvious miscalculation. The United States will not succeed in ensuring superiority for itself.

Discusses Technical Drawbacks

LD241448 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 24 TASS -- TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

SDI is bringing nearer nuclear apocalypse for humankind. War may break out as a consequence of the deliberate decision taken by the leaders of a country with an anti-missile "shield." Illusory notions of invulnerability and the ability to deliver the first nuclear strike from behind that "shield" and avert retaliation or at least weaken it to acceptable levels could contribute to such a reckless decision, which could be fatal to the world.

War can also break out accidentally. Since the strategic balance would be unstable, it would be hard for both sides to forecast development. In any crisis or near-crisis situation then each side would have to make decisions as fast as possible, decisions with fatal consequences for world peace. The world could find itself plunged into an abyss of nuclear catastrophe as a result of blackmail, one side's misunderstanding of the other's intentions or actions, or a reckless move caused by a sudden aggravation of the situation.

War can break out by chance, as a consequence of an error or malfunction in sophisticated computer systems. Any "Star Wars" system will have computers rather than people and there will be no time for human intervention since the computers will have to react instantaneously. When space strike weapons are deployed, decisions of major importance with irreparable consequences would actually be taken by computers, without the participation of human reason and political will and without respect for the norms of morality. In this situation mankind will become a hostage to machines and therefore technical malfunctions and errors. The Challenger disaster showed the world the dangers that are in store. Meanwhile, it was a reliable system, tried and tested on many occasions. SDI will be far more sophisticated and a technical malfunction in it may cause the peril of the huge spaceship called earth with mankind as its crew.

BOGACHEV DECRIES U.S. REPORT DEFENDING SDI

LD252033 Moscow TASS in English 2013 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 25 TASS -- TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev:

The U.S. Administration made another attempt to mend the spoilt reputation of the American "Star Wars" program by inspiring the publication of a new report of American ABM "experts." One of the "specialists" recruited to compile the report is a vice-president of the military-industrial corporation McDonnell Douglas and the rest employees of various research centres financed by the Pentagon.

The report seems to be the Pentagon's reaction to a recent poll of the Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Problems among members of the American Academy of Sciences who specialize in SDI-related fields. As many as 78 percent of the polled scientists rated the chances of the development of dependable and large-scale ABM defenses in the U.S. as low or exceptionally low.

Most of the American scientists, including those working under Pentagon contracts, cite stronger and stronger arguments that Reagan's "Star Wars" program is technologically fallacious. Unbiased economists point out the unprecedented costs of the program.

Politologists [as received] say that the Strategic Defense Initiative," giving the aggressor a leaky ABM "umbrella," is creating the real risk of the catastrophic destabilization of the military and political situation and dramatically escalating the danger of nuclear catastrophe, inter alia, because of possible malfunctions in ABM control computers, warning systems and communications and also because of the higher risk of mistakes in reading the intentions of the other side.

Yet six employees of different institutions of the U.S. military-industrial complex and the Pentagon, groundlessly claiming objectivity, argue that they tried but failed to find proof of the common beliefs about the major ABM system that is being developed in the U.S. They make fresh recommendations on accelerating the deployment of the American ABM defenses and claim that in the early periods spending on it could be kept within 121 billion dollars.

It is symptomatic that even the authors of the report done with the Pentagon's money do not guarantee the Americans the 100 percent defense against retaliation. According to their clearly overoptimistic estimates, the planned ABM system will be unable to defend U.S. territory from 7 per cent of the enemy nuclear warheads.

The McDonnel Douglas vice-president and his colleagues refrain, for obvious reasons, from explaining to the American readers the effects of the infiltration of even one per cent of retaliation nuclear warheads, especially if they hit atomic reactors.

The new "Pentagon-McDonnel" report is addressed not only to the American opponents of the "Star Wars." One more target may be the Soviet Union. The American advocates of the arms race are hinting, as it were: look, it is not very costly but very efficient. Recently a zealous advocate of the cold war and even shooting war, Edward Teller, the "father" of the American hydrogen bomb, said, clearly hinting at the economic consequences of the ABM arms race, that if the USSR followed the U.S. example and began to develop its own extensive ABM defenses, SDI would be justified.

The hopes to exhaust the Soviet Union in an arms race, including a race in ABM weapons, are built on sand. As the Soviet leaders have stated on more than one occasion, the Soviet reply to the development of vast ABM defenses by the U.S. will be efficient and less costly and will take less time. The Washington strategists are mistaken in believing that the Soviet Union will follow the Pentagon's scenario to guarantee its security.

On the other hand, billions upon billions of dollars set aside already now to develop an ABM umbrella can really aggravate both economic and security problems for the U.S.

Views Post-Reykjavik Scene

LD291340 Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 29 Dec 86

["To Preserve What Has Been Achieved in Reykjavik" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 29 TASS -- TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev comments:

Consistency and continuity typical of the Soviet Union's course on problems of war and peace presuppose rather than exclude the Soviet side's willingness to look for mutually acceptable decisions, compromises which would not upset the established parity of the military-strategic forces, would diffuse the apprehensions of either side, remove the existing threats to peace and, certainly, would not create new ones. The Soviet package of accords put forward during the summit meeting in Reykjavik was based on the provisions of the Soviet programme for ridding mankind of nuclear weapons by the end of the current century, announced on January 15, 1986. The Soviet side received with satisfaction the U.S. President's readiness to phase out all nuclear explosive devices, among them bombs, battlefield systems and cruise missiles, as early as the end of the ten-year period. However, right after his return to Washington from Reykjavik the White House announced that what it meant as all nuclear devices were only ballistic missiles. Later Washington spelled out that the abolition of all ballistic missiles within the next ten years was not the U.S. objective.

During the discussions on medium-range missiles held in Reykjavik the Soviet side made substantial concessions to the United States by agreeing in part to putting aside the nuclear armaments of the U.S. allies, even though Britain and France keep building up their nuclear arsenals and all their military activities are coordinated within the NATO framework. The USSR met the United States halfway also on medium-range missiles in Asia when it stated that in phasing out U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe, only 100 warheads will be left on similar missiles in the USSR and 100 warheads on delivery systems of this class in U.S. territory. The USSR's proposals on medium-range missiles made in Reykjavik were accepted by the U.S. side. Later, however, the United States actually revised these understandings too, alleging that the NATO European countries do not want any longer the "zero option" or the "dual-track" decision on medium-range missiles, that only the current high level of missile confrontation on the continent suits it.

The sole problem of disarmament discussed in Reykjavik on which the U.S. stance remains invariable is the issue of space militarization. In Reykjavik the Soviet side did not insist on the halt by the United States of all research conducted under the "Star Wars" programme. The USSR delegation declared for starting already in the near future top-level talks with an eye of specifying what work on anti-missile defence is allowed by the treaty and what is banned by it. Despite the USSR's readiness to look for mutually acceptable solutions as regards anti-missile defence, the United States sought in Iceland to secure cost what it may from the USSR a consent to the abrogation of the ABM Treaty after a ten-year period during which the Pentagon would be preparing a system of strike weapons for deployment in space. Certainly, the Soviet side could not agree to this. For it is utterly senseless to reduce nuclear armaments on the relatively limited space of the earth's surface while opening virtually boundless expanses of outer space for the arms race. If the U.S. side desires not in word but in deed to make nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete, it should abandon the attempts to revise the positive arrangements of Reykjavik and display the readiness to carry on work on disarmament from the level reached at the last summit meeting.

NEWS CONFERENCE HELD ON CSCE, NATO, EMIGRANTS

LD231630 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS -- "The proposal by Czechoslovakia's Foreign Minister Chnoupek to convene an economic forum as one of the steps to be taken after the Vienna meeting displayed the imaginative approach of socialist countries to questions of economic cooperation", it was stated by Igor Ornatskiy, deputy head of the Department for Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Speaking at a press conference here today on the results of the first stage of the Vienna meeting of participatory states of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, he said that the subject-matter of the proposed forum encompasses the most pressing matters of trade and industrial cooperation while at the same time not repeating the questions being discussed at the Vienna meeting.

Poland, Hungary and the GDR have become coauthors of this proposal.

So this proposal creates a good basis for further work in solving problems related to the second basket of the Helsinki Final Act. Along with the Bulgarian proposal to convene an ecological forum and the Romanian proposal to hold a meeting on scientific-technical cooperation, this opens up prospects for really advancing the cause of economic cooperation.

Major General Viktor Tatarnikov, a representative of the USSR General Staff, noted the untenability of the contentions by Western propaganda about the existence of a disbalance in conventional armed forces in Europe. He said that both Secretary of State of the United States Shultz and the head of the White House Staff Regan had stated after Reykjavik that the alignment of the armed forces of the two blocs in Europe did not give rise to concern.

According to American statistics the armed forces of NATO number 5.6 million men and those of the Warsaw Treaty -- 4.9 million. On the whole, General Tatarnikov declared, there is a balance of conventional armaments in Europe.

Asked how the problem of reuniting families is being solved in the USSR Yuriy Kashlev, head of the Department for Humanitarian and Cultural Ties of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said: "A noticeable process of perfecting rules and procedures concerning departure from the country is taking place in the Soviet Union. Work is under way to bring these regulations strictly in line with the international obligations of the Soviet Union and other countries. This tendency will be further developed".

He reminded journalists that Ashkenazi, a musician, was granted permission to visit his son in Switzerland and that Irina Ratushinskaya has left the USSR to get medical treatment abroad. On quite a number of occasions people with relatives in the United States were allowed to travel to that country to get medical treatment.

KASHLEV DISCUSSES U.S. 'POLITICAL PRISONERS'

LD232130 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Dec 86

[News conference by Yu.B. Kashlev, ambassador and head of the Soviet delegation to the CSCE meeting in Vienna, on 23 December in Moscow, on the results of the first stage of the general European meeting; video shows audience facing seated panel on platform; panel comprises six men, including from left: G.M. Yevstafyev, Yu.B. Kashlev, G.I. Gerasimov, and three other unidentified persons, including one Army officer -- recorded]

[Text] [Kashlev] The discussion in Vienna of military-political questions showed that in recent years two tendencies have clearly emerged in the approach of the participating countries to the problems of security in Europe and the world, and to their understanding of their obligations under the Helsinki Final Act in this outstandingly important area. The dividing line between the tendencies, between the approaches, passes between those who are striving, in the spirit of the new thinking, to find a solution to international problems, to strengthen world security, and those who, in the grip of inertia, grasp at confrontation and weapons, and s strive to wreck positive change in the world.

[Announcer] The USSR Foreign Ministry representative noted the destructive line of the U.S. delegation, which manifested itself with particular clarity in the discussion of questions of human rights and humanitarian problems.

[Kashlev] We reminded the U.S. representatives in Vienna that theirs is a country without equal for the number of political prisoners [appears to correct himself] number of prisoners in its jails -- 723,000 persons; 1,600 of them are awaiting capital punishment. That country devoted all its attention exclusively to talk about the situation in Soviet prisons, pretending that it had neither prisons nor political prisoners, although everybody knows the names of many American activists languishing in prison for political reasons.

[Announcer] In conclusion, Comrade Kashlev voiced the hope that good sense, good will, and a shared interest in success would triumph, and that after an interval of all participants in the Vienna meeting would be able to get down to constructive work. Replies were given to journalists questions.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD282043 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 28 Dec 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Professor Valentin Sergeyevich Zorin, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio; Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh, publicist; and Vladimir Yakovlevich Tsvetov, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio]

[Text] [Tsvetov] Hello, comrades. On the eve of the New Year festivities, the world's press usually draws up a list of the 10 most important events of the past year. If we decided to make a list of the most important events, the most significant for the cause of peace and disarmament, there are two that I'm sure would head the list: Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement of 15 January, and the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Reykjavik. Before we go into detail about these events, I'll just say a few words about them.

The statement of 15 January sets out a concrete program for abolishing nuclear and chemical weapons before the year 2000. Comrade Gorbachev's meeting with President Reagan in Reykjavik revealed to the world something that, before Reykjavik, a great many people had doubled. In other words, Reykjavik showed that the two sides can come to an agreement and can, consequently, avert a nuclear catastrophe.

[Zorin] You know, colleagues, we live in a time of which a clever man has said with bitter irony that it's a time of an erosion of words and inflation of concepts. I remember that, and yet I would still say with full responsibility, that you, Vladimir Yakovlenvich, have named not only important events that have left their mark on the departing year, you have named events that, as I see it, will go down in the history books that will be studied by our children and grandchildren. I am quite definitely and profoundly convinced of that. Both the proposal put forward by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on 15 January of this year -- his proposal for full nuclear disarmament by the year 2000 -- and what happened in Reykjavik are on the scale of events that become part of the chronicle of mankind. When Mikhail Sergeyevich put forward that proposal, there were not a few skeptics in the West who said that of course all of that was fine and beautiful -- to dream of a nuclear-free world that could come in a mere 15 years -- but unrealistic. A few months have passed, and what the Western politicians were calling unrealistic has become the concrete agenda of an international conference of the highest importance.

You and I, Vitaliy Ivanovich, were at Reykjavik and saw with our own eyes how far it had proved possible to go in the discussion of problems that only a few months before had seemed no more than a beautiful dream. This is, in itself, sufficient reason to count 1986 a remarkable and important period of time. The time that we have lived through and are living through now is just such a period.

[Kobysh] This year was a year of the initiative of the United Nations. It is of interest that in the United Nations itself, this whole range of problems that we're talking about has found very vivid and very active expression in the course of the work of the General Assembly, that broadest and most important forum of mankind. The session of the General Assembly has been dominated, practically, by precisely these ideas we're speaking of: the ideas of a nuclear-free world; the ideas of creating an inter-connected world that would exclude violence, a world of justice. These are the subjects of the 27th CPSU Congress, and they were present all the time, in one form or another, at the General Assembly. This is a very interesting phenomenon.

[Zorin] What you've said is quite right, Vitaliy Ivanovich. But I wouldn't like our listeners to think that what you've saying is that the UN General Assembly is guided in its activities by the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. If we're talking about the themes of the 27th congress, then they are the themes of the desire for peace and international cooperation, for a life without the fear of a nuclear catastrophe. These are themes that are close to the hearts, not only of Soviet communists, not only of Soviet people, but of the peoples of the entire world. That is why the thoughts expressed at the UN General Assembly have turned out to be consistent with the ideas of the 27th CPSU Congress.

[Kobysh] Now, when you were talking about the 10 events that the journalists traditionally line up -- and certainly you mentioned the main and most important ones -- and certainly you mentioned the main and most important ones -- there are a few things that I would, nonetheless, add to these 10. I want to remind you, Valentin Sergeyevich and you, Vladimir Yakovlevich, that today is the 510th day of the Soviet moratorium on the testing of nuclear weapons. For 510 days, our nuclear test sites have been silent. This, too, Valentin Sergeyevich, will go down in the history books.

[Zorin] I get letters from our listeners and viewers asking whether there was any point in our introducing that moratorium. The Americans are not joining it, so has it all been for nothing? To the people who ask that question, I'd say this: Of course, it has not been for nothing. The moratorium is not just an appeal. It's not a declaration. It's a real action by the Soviet Union, an action that has dealt nothing more nor less than a devastating blow to the myth of the Soviet military threat. Let us speak bluntly. In years gone by, Western propaganda has succeeded in convincing many people in the world that the Soviet Union poses a threat to them. Western propaganda is a powerful machine, and one that operates with a fair degree of efficiency. We know that quite a few people are in thrall to the lying assertions of Western propaganda. So the moratorium, this real action by the Soviet Union, has altered the thinking of very many ordinary people in the world, and a deep crack has appeared in the myth of the Soviet military threat. That by itself is enough to give you an idea of the full significance of the action of the Soviet Union: that the idea of the moratorium has captured the imagination of millions of people throughout the world. This will continue to be a real factor in the year ahead.

[Tsvetov] A feature of the statement of 15 January that I'd like to return to is that in it, possibly for the first time, there is not only a declaration of principles, a declaration of aims, but also a concrete time-scale laid down. In our day, the time factor is beginning to play a very, very important role. I want to say, in this connection, that when the treaty banning nuclear tests in the three environments was signed in 1963, one seemingly minor exception was made: Underground nuclear tests were allowed. What has that led to, in a mere 25 years, minus a year? Now, according to figures from our own press and from the American press, the world has stockpiled about 60,000 nuclear warheads.

To enable listeners to picture this more clearly, I'll try to translate it into terms of bombs of the size used on Hiroshima. It's more than a million such bombs as the one that destroyed Hiroshima. But there aren't enough cities in the world for all those bombs to be used. A second point: In 1977-1984, the U.S. early-warning system issued 2,784 false warnings of a missile attack on the U.S. It was only human intervention that averted a nuclear catastrophe. In other words, more than 20,000 times we've been on the brink of activating those million Hiroshima bombs. Now the picture that emerges is this: the longer agreement on nuclear disarmament is delayed, the more nuclear strike weapons come into existence, and the less man is able -- because of increasingly complex technology -- to control this vast power. I think one can establish the following dependence: that the length of time alloted to mankind is inversely proportionate to the delay in achieving agreement on nuclear disarmament. Therefore, the statement sets a specific time.

[Kobysh] Time is limited, you're absolutely right, Vladimir Yakovlevich. Time is rapidly slipping away. When we say that the moratorium has been in force for 510 days, we're not just indulging in an arithmetical exercise, we're taking note of the fact for 510 days we've been waiting for the Americans to join us. With us, all mankind is waiting. Incidentally, and this is very interesting, the PRC has not carried out a single nuclear test during all those 510 days. In other words, they've displayed full solidarity with us.

[Zorin] That is a very important, relevant and significant fact. But I also want to emphasize once again that when ew speak of the importance of the proposals contained in the statement made by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on 15 January of this year, when we speak of what was achieved in Reykjavik, we're not just talking about the events of the year that's over. We're not just talking about the past.

It is quite obvious that the significance both of the document offering mankind a nuclear-free world and the path to achieving that nuclear-free world, and a concrete time-scale and the concrete means to achieving that aim; and the experience of Reykjavik which has shown that the objective is a realistic one. [sentence as heard]

Marx once said that mankind only sets itself the tasks that it is capable of solving. What Reykjavik has shown is that the task that was set in the statement of 15 January is not a utopian task, but a feasible one. That is a fact of today, and a fact of tomorrow. Human beings are so constituted that, on the eve of the New Year, they want to peer beyond this conventional dividing-line and imagine what the new year will bring. I won't venture any predictions, but there is one thing that I will observe with complete conviction: Politically, the new year will be dominated by these very important Soviet initiatives and actions; by the proposal for a nuclear-free world and abolition of nuclear weapons by the year 2000; by the Soviet moratorium, which has become a real fact of political life.

[Kobysh] Abolition of chemical weapons.

[Zorin] Abolition of chemical weapons.

[Tsvetov] Talking about Reykjavik: There, the two sides practically reached agreement on very many of the questions, if not all. Only one question stopped them from achieving a general agreement. That was the question of the Strategic Defense Initiative.

[Zorin] We get a lot of letters from listeners asking why it is, if we assert that the Strategic Defense Initiative doesn't worry us or threaten us all that much, that we didn't accept it at Reykjavik.

[Kobysh] Well, it's a reasonable question, an interesting question, and I don't think it's very hard to answer. It's indisputable that we're not afraid of the notorious SDI. The Soviet leaders have said repeatedly that if we're forced to go that way, then we'll find the necessary measures, considerably cheaper and more effective than what has been planned and what they're carried away with at present.

[Tsvetov] Sorry to interrupt. That will be only a small percent of the total cost of SDI, in money, but not in effectiveness.

[Kobysh] But not in effectiveness. Effectiveness will be a hundred percent. But why are we so much against it, and so seriously against it, that this has become a stumbling block in Reykjavik? Because it's not a queston of the direct danger of that system, which we can avert; what it's all about in effect, is a new round of the arms race. Atomic weapons came into existence more than 40 years ago. There has been an atomic arms race. All the time the Americans have been avidly striving for superiority. Now a time has come when it's become clear that neither side will succeed in getting a head-start in what can be conventionally termed land-based nuclear weapons. So now they have the idea: Well, we can't overtake the Russians in these types of weapons, so let's impose a race in space weapons on them -- a second arms race, if one can call it so. That will either give us military superiority, or strike a blow at the Soviet economy that it won't be able to withstand. In other words, it's a new arms race.

[Zorin] In the United States itself scientists understand this. In the last 2 years about 6,700 physicists from various U.S. educational and scientific centers have signed petitions demanding the renunciation of plans to militarize space. Who are these 6,700 people? They are half of the physicists of the Universities of Harvard, Princeton, and Cornell and of the Universities of Chicago and Illinois, and also...

[Tsvetov, interrupting]...the cream of American scientific ..

[Zorin]...and also of the Californian Institute of Technology. This is the best that there is in America. Scientists have called on their colleagues to decline to cooperate in any way with the Pentagon within the framework of the program to militarize space.

[Tsevtov] You know, I'd like to add some more reasons why we have such a harsh attitude toward SDI. As you have said, this will be a new round of the arms race, that is, it will be a round with the creation of completely new types of weapons. Next, taking weapons out into space will in the end lead to uncertainty in the strategic balance and from this, naturally, there will be an increase in mistrust, of which, as it is, there is too much between the Soviet Union and the United States. After that it will be impossible to start cutting down on strategic weapons, because naturally we will respond to SDI with a reinforcement of our strategic weapons. In response, the United States will start reinforcing its strategic weapons and it will no longer be possible to halt this process. Finally, the danger of a war breaking out is greatly strengthened because somebody in the Pentagon will get it into his head that after all there is a nuclear shield and it is possible to attack the Soviet Union with impunity.

Secondly, accidentally -- as I've just been saying, if with today's technology there were more than 20,000 cases of false warning of a missile attack on the United States -- what will happen when all of these computers are in space and man won't be able to even consider what needs to be done, when the computers will have already issued the order for a nuclear attack? It is these reasons that requrie a most decisive struggle against the Strategic Defense Initiative.

[Zorin] The Star Wars plans are calculated for up to the middle of the next century. That is, for our grandchildren and the grandchildren of our grandchildren, a life has already been programmed under a sky that will consist not of twinkling peaceful stars but of flying weapons of death. Can we really allow this? Therefore, our position here is deeply humanitarian and internationalist. We are thinking not just about ourselves, not just about our own defense and about our own protection. We are thinking about all mankind, about future generations.

[Tsvetov] I would also like to point to another development of the theses of the 15 January statement: the Soviet program for Asian and Pacific Ocean security. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev came out with this program in his speech in Vladivostok. The program consists of five points. I'll recall them for listeners. First of all is regional settlement; second, halting the build-up of nuclear weapons in the region; third, cutting down the activity of naval fleets, particularly submarines; fourth, cutting down armed forces and weapons in Asia to reasonable levels and, finally, the discussion of the measures of trust, beginning with the simplest, the measure on the security of maritime communications in the Pacific Ocean and on averting internaitonal terrorism. Asia has the experience of the principles of Pancasila and Bandung. Asia has the experience of the Indo-Pakistani agreement in Tashkent.

The Soviet proposals are based on what has already been -- I don't want to say mastered in Asia -- but which Asia has already touched on. This is why these proposals have caused such a great response in the world and naturally most of all in Asia and in the Pacific Ocean region.

Apart from this, in Europe, whether proceeding well or badly, the so-called Helsinki process is in operation. It is a system of talks and agreements. There is no such process in Asia and the Pacific Ocean. However, the threat of the militarization of this region is not less serious than in Europe. Therefore, the sooner the peoples of Asia get down to resolving problems of peace and security in their own region, the sooner mutual understanding and a lessening of tension will come to this area.

The Soviet Union has not stopped at just a declaration of principles of Asian and Pacific Ocean security. During his visit to India, Mikhail Sergeyevich proposed a whole series of concrete measures. These are the proposal to hold an internatinal conference implementing the UN declaration on a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean and the proposal to cut the numbers and activity of naval forces in the Indian Ocean. These are the implementation of measures of trust following the European example where agreement has been reached on notification about major maneuvers and troops movements. These are the establishment of guarantees on air communications and developing an international convention on the fight against terrorism. The crown, the philosophical development of our, I would say, concept of Asian and Pacific Ocean security, and not only of security in that region, but of world security as a whole, was the Delhi declaration.

[Zorin] I would also number the Delhi declaration as being one of the most important events of the year. Our radio listeners must not think that we count only what has to do with our country as among the most outstanding events of the present day. No. What was signed in Delhi has significance for all mankind and for the future of mankind. An absolutely new way of thinking manifested itself in that declaration. It is a new approach to international relations. It is a road, a structure to a new world, and it is difficult to overestimate its significance.

[Tsvetov] Everything in the world is interconnected. These concrete, very decisive and bold actions by the Soviet Union in the international arena have put the Reagan administration into a defensive position.

[Kobysh] Yes, and you know, this scandal, which is spoiling both the end of the year so much for the Americans, and the atmosphere in Washington, and which is throwing a shadow over Reagan's entire Presidency, arose precisely against the background of those positive events taking place in the world. I think that if it were not for this new situation in the world, Washington's illegal actions would have led to some kind of confrontation, a little scandal, that would have stuck, little by little. It would have given things a bit of a bad smell and created unpleasantness, but wouldn't have developed into a major internal political crisis. It has developed into a major crisis precisely against the background of the positive processes and the initiatives of the Soviet Union. The policy of force of the United States, its globalism, its line that anything goes -- and it is this that is at the basis of Irangate -- this, against the general background, became such a scandal that it turned into the largest political shock for the present leadership of the United States.

[Zorin] In connection with Irangate, more and more new details are now being revealed. I am now going to tell you something that could seem like an excerpt from a novel. But it isn't an excerpt from a novel, it's a document.

It has been revealed that the U.S. special services had developed a plan for the assassination, as a provocation, of the U.S. ambassador to Costa Rica and for a simultaneous explosion in the U.S. Embassy building in that country. The plan was to lay the blame on the Government of Nicaragua and, on that pretext, to carry out a direct U.S. armed invasion of that country's territory. Be patient for a second, I'm about to turn to Irangate.

In February of this year, in Miami, an inquiry began. The FBI had gotten onto the trail of underground arms dealers. The market outlet was El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. During questioning, the smugglers let the cat out of the bag. Not only did the illegal deliveries of U.S. weapons to the contras become known but so did preparations for an attempt on the life of the U.S. ambassador. A few days ago, one (?Stephen Carr) died in California under mysterious circumstances. I say died in quotes, since he was killed. The next day he was to have given evidence to Congress in the course of the Irangate inquiry. This is the level of that people.

[Tsvetov] Incidentally, that's their level in foreign policy.

[Kobysh] This can be carried over into foreign policy. [words indistinct due to cross talks]

[Zorin] When we talk of the crisis of U.S. foreign policy, I see a symptom of that crisis in the following: The 1974 treaty on limiting underground nuclear weapons testing and the 1976 treaty on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful ends are again to be put to the U.S. Senate for discussion. The Senate...

[Kobysh, interrupting] These treaties have not yet been ratified.

[Zorin] They have not been ratified. For 10 years the Senate has been refusing to ratify them and the Reagan administration is as afraid of these treaties as, if one can so express oneself, the Devil fears incense. If these treaties are again submitted for discussion, and they're being submitted with the aim of ratification, as I understand it, then this again emphasized how deep the U.S. Administration's foreign policy crisis is.

[Kobysh] And how profound the contradictions are between the different sections of the ruling forces in America and just how much the monolithic cohesion of these forces has cracked. This is also the result of the processes that are under way in the international arena and that we've been talking about today.

[Tsvetov] Last year was a very complex one but also significant. I think it was above all significant because the new way of thinking began to elbow its way forward in the most decisive way. After all, never before have people really pondered the meaning of the world survival [vyzhivaniye] so much. Previously, we saw this word in terms of abstracts. Now, though, we've started to see it as a word that concerns us very directly. Sacrificing life for the triumph of humanism, for the sake of those who will remain alive is understandable, but why should life be sacrificed for the sake of emptiness, nonexistence, the universal death that will follow that sacrifice? A sacrifice like that is both senseless and criminal. It was the gradual realization of all this that made last year significant.

Usually, as the year comes to a close, people say, well, we've lived through another 365 days. But you can't measure the past year in time, it is measured in terms of deeds.

Maybe we have not managed to achieve all we wanted in the international arena -- after all, it's not easy to break the resistance of aggressive forces, the resistance of a mighty military-industrial complex that is making money out of military preparations. It seems to me, however, that what matters is not where we are now, but the direction in which we're moving. We are moving toward victory of reason over recklessness. Therefore, the world is entering 1987, despite everything, with a sense of optimism. On that note, I take leave of you. All the best.

BOVIN DISCUSSES FAR EAST, SOUTH ASIA POLICIES

LD282123 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Dec 86

[From the "International Panorama" program, presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] Well, of course the Americans would like very much to strangle the Sandinistas, but, as they say, so near and yet so far. The more so as the adventurism of the White House will, clearly, come up against more and more opposition from the new Congress, and in Latin America and resistance is growing in strength. Something like an anti-Monroe Doctrine is gradually forming there, and things are heading toward a situation when the United States will be completely prohibited from setting foot in Latin America.

As you understand, the significance of Soviet-U.S. relations does not require any proof. But our foreign policy, the policy of a great power having global interests, takes in a much wider spectrum of directions. Comrade Gorbachev's Vladivostok speech marked a notable activization of the Soviet Union in the Asian-Pacific region. The internal prerequisite of this turning to the East is the intensive assimilation of Siberia and of the Far East, and of the whole Pacific coastline of our country. The external prerequisite is the growing weight of the region's countries in world politics and in the world economy.

In this year, which is now leaving us, the development of good-neighborly relations with China continued. We watch with enormous and benevolent interest the radical reforms that are affecting the modernization of socialist China. We are confident that, in spite of the existing differences in our positions on a number of important political issues, our future is determined by a community of fundamental interests, of the Soviet Union and the PRC.

The state of Soviet-Indian relations also holds great significance for the fate of the world. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's November visit and the Delhi declaration signed by the two leaders underlined once again that Delhi and Moscow hold a common front against militarism, and against those forces that are trying to stop social progress.

The state of Soviet-Japanese relations could have been better in the past year. They are hindered by two factors: in the first place, the territorial claims of Japan, and secondly, the growing role of Japan in the implementation of Washington's dangerous strategic designs, and the strengthening of the Japanese military.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON IRAN-CONTRA AFFAIR

Arbatov Comments

LD242139 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1655 GMT 24 Dec 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; interview with Academician G.A. Arbatov, director of the United States of America and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, with Washington correspondent Vladimir Dunayev in the United States; date not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] Meetings and discussions between Soviet and American eminent scientists and public figures have taken place in the United States. Our correspondent in Washington, Vladimir Dunayev, has met one of the participants in the discussion, Academician Arbatov, and has asked him to share his impressions. [Video shows Arbatov seated on sofa]

[Begin recording] [Arbatov] You know, not only the atmosphere has changed, but the change in the agenda, the very nature of the discussion, has been staggering. It has become easier to understand one another. There again our positions, of course, I must say, have become, really, incomparably more preferable. It is also far easier for us to show our policy, and to refute incorrect notions, and on that level, I think that, in general, those labors that were expended by our leadership and party -- the political initiatives, everything here, Reykjavik, and India, and Geneva, and our January proposals, and all of it, all that has not gone to waste. You know, I was invited 4 or 5 days ago to speak on the morning news, and they also invited Kissinger. They asked Kissinger: Well, what do you think, this political scandal which has broken out at the moment in America, will it not inspire the Russians to create some sort of unpleasantness for America in Central America, or the Near East, or somewhere else? Kissinger said: No, no, I fear something quite different. I fear that the Russians will now put forward some sort of new and very attractive proposals, and then the President, because of the difficulty of his situation, will not be able to resist and will accept them. You see, people at the moment are not afraid of bad Russians, they are afraid of good Russians. I would say that, on the whole, over his half a year that I have not been here, I see to a greater extent than previously this anxiety over the state of Soviet-U.S. relations. People are distressed by the fact that greater results have not been achieved, and many people are relying, relying, in the main, on us, but are also beginning to rely on themselves as well now.

[Dunayev] Here we have a scandal now, a very major scandal which will evidently not die down. The administration will have to unravel it for several months still, and during this time it is scarcely worth expecting any, well, you know, any such serious steps from the U.S. Administration on the foreign-policy level.

[Arbatov] First of all, before this scandal, before all this unpleasantness, it became clear that positive steps from the administration are not to be expected, in the light of what was done after Reykjavik. But if one is to talk about time, then I think that the political process is more complex, and at the moment this struggle is unfolding before our eyes in new dimensions, when into it... [Arbatov changes thought] you understand, this hypnotized state of the administration by the President is somehow beginning to be dispelled, Congress is beginning to play a new role, as well as various new political elites. What all this will lead to is very difficult to say, but I think that it's not the most easy period of their lives that is coming for the far right.

So I would not consider that for 2 years the frozen period is entering the stage of an ice age.

[Dunayev] Georgiy Arkadiyevich, thank you very much. [End recording]

Bush's Remarks Viewed

PM290853 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[B. Orekhov "Rejoinder": "Eruption..."]

[Text] There are a number of volcanoes in the world which, inactive for a long period of time, suddenly begin to "speak," spewing forth ash, fire, and streams of lava. U.S. Vice President George Bush resembled just such a volcano the other day.

Having remained in the shadows for a long time, on the sidelines of "Irangate," the vict president decided -- either because he was missing the footlights or because he was burning with a sense of loyalty to his immediate superior -- to courageously stand up for the President, who is rapidly losing his popularity.

Speaking in the small town of Altuna in Iowa, without particularly choosing his turns of phrase and seemingly forgetting the obligations and limits imposed on him by the high office of state he holds, G. Bush "voiced the hope" of future changes in Iran which, according to him, had compelled the United States to "take cautious steps without any fuss to try to establish relations of some kind with the Iranians." At this point the vice president surpassed himself in his use of metaphor, literally saying: "It is basically a question of trying to open the door, looking inside, and giving a sign to those who may decide to end this tyranny..."

Of course, the U.S. vice president is by no means giving away his government's foreign policy secrets. Looking through other people's keyholes and "trying to open the door" with the aid of a whole range of untramodern "skeleton keys" and "jimmies" has become the conventional modus operandi of those who put U.S. foreign policy into practice. But, nevertheless, how can one justify such shameless interference in the affairs of other states -- Iran, in this case?

The U.S. vice president made no attempt to be original, explaining away everything by an imaginary Soviet threat to Iran. "It is quite essential to us and to our allies," G. Bush raged, "that Iran should not come under Soviet control, and this is why -- despite the hatred we all feel for the present Iranian Government -- the President decided to act." We will agree that what he says about hatred is very impressive.

It clearly never occurred to the enthusiastic vice president, however, that he was doing the President a disservice with his spate of words. After all, the general belief is that the President was totally unaware of the Iran-Nicaragua operation involving secret arms deliveries. According to Bush, however, it transpires that he "decided to act." The vice president clearly knows better.

One revelation was followed by another. "Abandoning the contras now would mean giving up all hope of establishing democracy and achieving freedom in Nicaragua" -- this is another quote from the same speech by the vice president. It too is especially valuable, as it confirms the existence of far-reaching U.S. plans with regard to independent, proud Nicaragua.

G. Bush exclaimed with pathos in Iowa: "Yes, a storm is now raging around the President... I would like to say frankly how matters stand as far as I am concerned. I will stand by the President. He is telling the truth."

At this point the question involuntarily arises: What does the vice president have in mind? -- hatred for Iran, hatred for Nicaragua, or something else?

U.S. REPORTS ON ALMA-ATA INCIDENTS 'EMBROIDERED'

PM281405 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[B. Ivanov "Notes A Propos": "A Poor Kind of Truth"]

[Text] Just before Christmas the American newspaper THE NEW YORK POST offered its readers "startling information" about the events in Alma-Ata.

The Soviet mass media -- radio, television, and press -- reported immediately on what happened in the Kazakh SSR capital on 17 and 18 December. Information about these incidents was also transmitted almost immediately abroad, including to the United States. This development did not suit everybody across the ocean, however. Hence, the Alma-Ata story rapidly began to be embroidered with fantastic "details."

This is not a new formula. Individual phrases and words are taken out of context and juggled, a remark or two is added, a couple of figures are plucked from the air for plausibility, and...the sensation is ready. This was how NEW YORK POST correspondent (Naylz Leytem's) revelations about "dozens" of people killed and wounded came to see the light of day. However he got carried away, lost his self-control, and let slip that the "details," it transpires, had been obtained from Radio Liberty. Or rather from the subversion center of the CIA, which finances this radio "voice." For decades Radio Liberty has remained the mouthpiece of that grouping of bellicose politicians for whom peaceful coexistence and peaceful cooperation with the USSR are more terrifying than a sharpened stake.

The Soviet people are engaged in major matters. They are renewing and restructuring life in their own home. The most important feature of this complex and difficult work is the broadening of publicity. You would think that all this was our internal affair, and ours alone.

Indeed it is an internal affair. But more than that. Publicity is cutting the ground from under the feet of anti-Soviet propaganda. We report everything that happens in our country and call things by their proper names -- good and bad alike. This state of affairs does not suit everybody in the West, and primarily in the United States. The houses of cards built of traditional preconceptions and cliches about the USSR as a "closed society" are collapsing.

This is why our detractors across the ocean are working so hard. They seek anything they can grab hold of to sow the seeds of doubt. Fairytales about our country flow from the poison quills of the "cloak and dagger knights."

Washington loves to preach about "truth," which the American mass media allegedly bring to the world. "The truth is our greatest strength...." the head of the White House states. Might you be interested to know what the President has in mind? [paragraph continues]

Maybe his assertions that there is no word for "freedom" in Russian? Or perhaps the "quotations" from the works of V.I. Lenin which turned out to have been manufactured by Goebbels' experts. A poor kind of truth!

How can you talk about truth when violence is committed against common sense and decency. Let us recall that during the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow Americans were fed fables to the effect that in the Soviet capital "young people from all over the world will be drugged and recruited for a terrorist role in the West." Americans were informed in approximately the same way about the Goodwill Games. Was the truth about the events at Chernobyl written by the U.S. press, which invented "sensations" about "enormous loss of life"? Incidentally THE NEW YORK POST carried a false story at that time about "thousands of people secretly buried in mass graves" near Kiev.

The list of such "truths" could be extended. But that is not the point. Manifest disquiet is being caused in Washington by the style of extensive publicity which is becoming established in our country since it demolishes the calculations of those who would like to continue to make a living out of fabrications about the Soviet Union.

KONDRASHOV SCORNS U.S. 'IMPERIAL EGOCENTRISM'

PM171909 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by IZVESTIYA political observer Stanislav Kondrashov: "Intolerance And Hypocrisy"]

[Text] In his television address to the American people immediately after Reykjavik President Reagan said that he attaches "much less significance to the words said at meetings than the deeds which follow." An old axiom, but the President immediately confirmed it in an unexpected way. He departed from his own words, from the assurance given at the summit meeting -- that he agreed to destroy all strategic nuclear armaments over a 10-year period.

The betrayal of the word was followed after a while by the deed, which was also at odds with the logic of Reykjavik. At the end of November of the United States brought into service the 131st heavy bomber equipped to carry long-range cruise missiles. What the Reagan administration had threatened throughout its 6 years in office had taken place: The United States had broken completely with the SALT II treaty, opening the sluice gate for an unlimited nuclear arms race -- and the prospect of strategic chaos. It was, perhaps, Washington's most important strategic action since Reykjavik.

The most important document in that period, on the other hand, was the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons, which M.S. Gorbachev signed with Rajiv Gandhi on 27 November. It proclaimed peaceful coexistence as the universal norm of international relations and nonviolence as the foundation of the life of the human community. Philosophy and politics founded on violence and deterrence are immoral and impermissible, the declaration says. They instill a spirit of intolerance, they destroy man's lofty aspirations, and they deny all human values.

The 10 Delhi principles together form a kind of code for the new political thinking the need for which has been proclaimed by the Soviet Union. All Washington is saying and all Washington can say is words. But, in the first place, these words are confirmed by, for example, the 30-year practice of peaceful coexistence between two states with different systems and a combined population of more than one billion. [paragraph continues]

Second, a word is also a deed if, by authoritatively influencing the world community, it helps to unite peoples and states and generate a more tranquil and favorable international climate.

The Soviet Union is engaged in a fundamental restructuring of its domestic life, tackling big and difficult tasks connected with the democratization of society and acceleration of economic development. Any unbiased observer will see and note that through a number of major initiatives, displaying great dynamism and flexibility, tolerance and willingness to compromise, the Soviet leadership would like -- in conjunction with other states -- to achieve a long overdue restructuring of international life as well, on the basis of trust and mutual understanding. Priority, to common human values -- the emphasis of the Delhi declaration is logical for a country which, at its leading party's congress, proclaimed as the main task mankind's survival in a nuclear age. Without this conscious and, moreover, hard-won priority, movement toward a nuclear-free world and age is impossible. In order to survive together we have to get on with one another.

Will the other side take on this task? How will it tackle it?

Perhaps there is no state leader in the world today who has used religious values and the biblical, "Judeo-Christian" ethic to justify his practical policy as often as President Reagan. But, contrary to long tradition, he uses this ethic to justify intolerance, bellicosity, and the cult of force. In Reykjavik, as has been mentioned before, he went along with the idea of nuclear disarmament, but barely more than a month later in Washington he has exceeded the treaty limiting the strategic arms race. For what purpose? To further build up the positions of strength and to implement superarmament, which, if you believe his administration's strange logic, can lead to disarmament. And the notorious SDI? Another quest -- now in space -- for U.S. superiority, another example of force and violence against other participants in international life, above all another nuclear power.

Washington is forever citing these far from biblical motifs. Americans both chuckle and shudder when the ayatollah curses their country as the refuge of the "Great Satan." Is that any different from the "evil empire," which is our country as seen by the President? Is it any better than his calls -- which have resumed since Reykjavik -- for an anticommunist crusade?! They smack of a fanaticism that is unusual for a country of pragmatists.

In the course of the developing scandal over the secret -- even from Congress -- deliveries of U.S. weapons to Iran and the secret -- also from Congress -- aid to the Nicaraguan "contras," the President's prestige and popularity, which only recently were at a record height, have declined abruptly. Political America, having forgotten all else, is feverishly settling domestic scores. Sometimes it seems that the ancient rule would be entirely applicable in Reagan's case: Don't hit a man when he's down. But, on the other hand, isn't it time to recall once again his statement about words meaning much less than actions?

The administration, which generally has a rare ability to manipulate U.S. public opinion (remember the seizure of Grenada in October 1983, backed by the vast majority of the chauvinistically indoctrinated population), is now being judged by its actions. By its actions, disbelieving denials. According to one poll, more than 50 percent of Americans believe that the administration speaks the truth only "in some cases." Only one percent stated that what comes out of Washington is "always" the truth.

This is how those who, when confronting the outside world, maintain an expression of infallibility on their faces and didactic ardor in their speeches, are seen by their own people. [paragraph continues]

But in the exposures currently rocking Washington one scarcely ever hears mention of the underlying cause of the scandal of the decade -- the Reaganites' fanatical anticommunism which dictated their conduct at both ends of the secret operation -- in Iran and in Nicaragua.

In Soviet foreign policy practice Marxist-Leninist teaching looks far more tolerant of others than the "Judeo-Christian ethic" as interpreted by and in the actions of such a "theologian" as the current U.S. President. After all, the differences between socialism and capitalism are fundamental. Their roots are to be found in the different ownership systems and their uppermost branches extend into different social mentalities, into the ways of life. The areas of ideological incompatibility are very extensive.

But by treating the survival of mankind in the nuclear era as the paramount task we are learning to understand our fellow men no matter how much their views and beliefs might differ from ours. We would like to see the living human face behind the enemy stereotype. The same inclination, albeit not always conscious, is felt by many Americans, as the writer of these lines once again saw for himself during the Mississippi "peace cruise" in the summer. But the people in the present Washington Administration want to leave intact -- and the more terrifying the better -- the image of the enemy and conceal and hide away from their compatriots the very different, unfamiliar, but real, true, and peaceful face of Soviet people.

Figuratively speaking, we want to humanize Americans whereas the Washington hawks want to dehumanize us, turn us into faceless beings without will and destiny, into bogeymen, into puppets of so-called "Soviet totalitarianism." Anything goes, from official White House homilies to movie exploits by Hollywood Rambos, for whom there are no venerable, age-old moral constraints, no conscience, no shame when it comes to combating communists, who are portrayed as subhuman.

They are hostile to everything that hinders the preservation of the image of the enemy. So the process of the democratization of Soviet society, openness, and frank and highly critical discussion of our problems makes them nervous. When we fling open our doors and sweep out the rubbish, rather than conceal it, this apparently frightens the U.S. advocates of an "open society." They like it better when the doors are shut -- it is easier to point an accusing finger at those doors. Advocates of contacts are embarrassed by television linkups, "roundtables," and other modes of conversation and encounters between Soviet people and Americans. In fact, this is also at odds with the image of the morose misanthropes behind the "Iron Curtain." What if ordinary Americans were to take the words about peace and about wanting to have good relations with America at face value! There have been endless warnings from the vigilant tutors in Washington about the danger of "idealistic" notions about Soviet society.

These warnings are directed primarily at the antiwar movement among whom there has been a response to the Soviet Union's peace initiatives, in particular such persuasive and concrete ones as the unilateral moratorium in nuclear explosions. Polls have shown that most Americans supported the idea of their country's endorsing the moratorium. But their opinion went unheeded by the very people who are fond of claiming that in America, in contrast to the Soviet Union, public opinion is a weighty factor, one that is binding on the government. The opinion of the majority went unnoticed four years ago when it advocated a nuclear arms freeze. There is no escaping the conclusions that Washington listens to Americans' opinions only when they join the government in demonstrating chauvinist feelings (the April bombing of Libya or, again, Grenada), but goes blind and deaf if the people display more common sense than their political leaders.

For the sake of the overriding interests of humanity the Soviet Union does not turn the very real and highly significant ideological incompatibility into a barrier to the solution of international problems. Washington, on the other hand, exacerbates and exaggerates this incompatibility, making its elimination, on its own terms, of course, a kind of essential prerequisite for the achievement of accords. It is in this context that the U.S. leaders are more and more obstinately raising the question of human rights.

Here is what the U.S. President says: "In the course of our task with the Soviet Union we have discarded the hackneyed old doctrine that relations between our countries do not depend on the conduct of the Russians worldwide or on the way the Soviet authorities treat their own peoples at home. We have said that more respect for human rights in the Soviet Union is the fundamental condition of genuine peace between us and that talks on arms questions which lead to the reduction of our arsenals but have no effect at all on the reasons why these arsenals were built up in the first place have little chance of lasting success."

How is one supposed to take this declaration, which has been repeated again and again in U.S. officials' utterances? Apparently it means that Soviet society has to change not in accordance with Soviet people's wishes and needs, but at the prompting and bidding of people on the other side of the Atlantic. Not in accordance with our ideas, ideas accepted in the world community, and documents on human rights, but according to the ideas of the Reagan administration. Apparently it is easier for Washington to see where we should be going and how we should proceed. Otherwise there is little change of "lasting peace" and a "reduction in arsenals." Otherwise mankind will forfeit the right to peace.

What is this -- a whole program of U.S. interference in Soviet internal affairs or another "linkage," of which there have been so many in the history of Soviet-American arms control talks? Or, rather, another excuse for wrecking the talks and blaming Russia because it is refusing to change in the way America wants?

The Soviet Union is in favor of human rights, it is in favor of respect for international commitments on this score and, moreover, of a constructive new discussion of this topic, as is evidenced by the Soviet proposal on convening in Moscow a representative conference of the all-European conference states to discuss the whole range of humanitarian matters. But the Soviet Union is not trying to corner the market in the interpretation and implementation of human rights. It does not believe that anyone has a monopoly, in particular the product of the Californian nouveaux riche who in his own country has been nicknamed Robin Hood "in reverse," that is, robbing the poor to make the rich richer.

Here is the latest news from the U.S. NBC television network for the attention, as it were, of President Reagan: "Joe Green is a plumber with a regular wage. This year he has earned more than $20,000. But his wife and four children do not have a roof over their heads in New York. This has been the case for the last 2 years... In New York at the moment there are 4,500 homeless families and more than 10,000 homeless waifs... It is hard to find an apartment although there are many apartment buildings. Old apartment buildings are being knocked down and expensive 'cooperative apartments' put up in their place, intended for sale. In the first half of the eighties federal appropriations for subsidized housing were cut by 60 percent. Knowing the reasons does not relieve the suffering."

In all probability Joe Green would ask Ronald Reagan, if he could, about the cuts in federal appropriations, and about human rights. The President could brush him aside: Capitalist private enterprise ensures freedom only insofar as an American is successful -- and let the failure weep and spend the night with his wife and four children outside in the open. For our part, we could easily argue with this interpretation of human rights and say that unlike America we emphasize socialist collectivism, not bourgeois individualism. Because our system implies responsibility for the fate of all members of society, in a sense it has a harder task. More is expected of it than of the American, capitalist system, in which the President, since he is busy telling everyone abroad what to do, can relinquish responsibility for the fate of hapless people in his own country.

This is just one argument about the nature of socialism and capitalism, collectivism and individualism.

In conclusion I must say that U.S. individualism, when you consider its foreign policy manifestations, stands out even in the capitalist world, and in the international arena as a whole. It is a peculiar imperial egocentrism which sets itself up in arrogant opposition to the world community.

Here is an example, also quite recent. The other day the UN General Assembly proclaimed a world decade of cultural development under the auspices of the United Nations and UNESCO. Some 146 states voted for it, one voted against: against the decade, against culture, against the auspices of the United Nations and UNESCO. Is it difficult to guess who? Look back at the other votes -- on very important questions connected with curbing the arms race and preventing the militarization of space. More often than not the U.S. representatives have either been in a small minority or completely alone, abandoned even by their most faithful allies who refuse to automatically follow the course or whims of the senior partner.

Totally alone -- defying the opinion of the world community and ultimately disregarding the interests of the American people, because these interests cannot be met without collaboration with other countries and peoples.

CLANDESTINE BROADCASTS TO PRC SAID HALTED

OW250735 Tokyo KYODO in English 0707 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 25 KYODO -- Radio stations operated by the Soviet Union in an attempt to stir discontent in China have gone off the air, according to sources here. The sources speculate that Moscow has halted the broadcasts as another move in its effort to improve relations with Beijing.

The so-called August First Radio and Red Flag Radio, both based in Soviet Siberia, have not been heard for a month, the sources said.

August First Radio, which is named after the date the People's Liberation Army was founded in China, began broadcasting in March 1979, shortly after Chinese forces pushed across the Vietnamese border to "punish" Vietnam for its invasion of Kampuchea.

The station purported to speak for disgruntled elements within the Chinese Armed Forces and was regarded as a Soviet effort to undermine the policies of Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, according to the sources. Its sharpest attacks were directed against China's relations with the United States and Japan, they said.

Red Flag Radio, which started broadcasting in 1971, attacked Maoism during the Cultural Revolution and later claimed to represent dissatisfaction in China with Deng Xiaoping's reform policies after Deng was rehabilitated, the sources said.

TRADE, INDUSTRY EXHIBITION ENDS IN BEIJING

LD282101 Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Beijing December 28 TASS -- The Soviet commercial and industrial exhibition closed at the Beijing International Exhibition Centre today. This was the biggest Soviet exposition in China in the past 30 odd years. It attracted a great number of visitors. The exhibition showed the Soviet Union's present economic, scientific and technological potential. Various technical seminars were held during the exhibition's work. Conversations with specialists from various Chinese organisations and companies were held. Talks were conducted on cooperation in various spheres. A number of contracts was signed. The exhibition was visited by Premier of the State Council of the PRC Zhao Ziyang, other officials.

CONTRACT FOR 10 POWER UNITS SIGNED WITH PRC

PM281706 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 24 Dec 86 p 3

[A. Zaytsev report: "For China's Power Industry Workers"]

[Excerpt] A contract for deliveries of Soviet power industry equipment to China was signed in Beijing.

"This is our largest export deal with the PRC in the last few years," V. Filimonov, deputy chairman of the "Energomasheksport" All-Union Association, stressed. "It was concluded in line with the long-term Soviet-Chinese intergovernmental agreement for 1986-1990 and constitutes an important landmark in its implementation and in the development of mutually advantageous trade and economic cooperation between the two countries."

The contract provides for the delivery of 10 power units with a total capacity of 2.1 million kilowatts. They are meant for four thermoelectric power stations currently being reconstructed and expanded in China. The basis equipment will be manufactured by leading Soviet enterprises in power machine building: Boilers by Taganrog's "Krasnyy Kotelshchik," turbines by the "Leningradskiy Metallicheskiy Zavod," generators by "Elektrosila," and the transformers will be made in Zaporozhye. [passage omitted]

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA ON NEW PRC BANKRUPTCY LAW

PM241004 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Dec 86 p 9

[S. Merinov article: "The State Shows the 'Yellow Card'"]

[Text] The first bankruptcy in the entire history of the PRC was registered on 3 August 1986. A Shenyang factory went bankrupt -- a collective enterprise with 72 employees, assets worth 302,000 yuan, and debts of 503,000 yuan accumulated over 10 years.

The routine session of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee which ended in Beijing on 2 December adopted the "PRC Law on Bankruptcy of State Enterprises." For the time being it will operate experimentally, and will come into force after 3 months of implementation of the "PRC Law on Industrial Enterprises Under the Ownership of the Whole People."

This is what the BEIJING REVIEW WEEKLY wrote in connection with the drawing up of the bankruptcy law: "Formerly the Chinese believed that 'bankruptcy is a capitalist phenomenon incompatible with socialism'...Although nobody in China denied that certain enterprises have for a long time been experiencing serious difficulties and are even unable to pay their debts, it was traditionally believed that a socialist enterprise cannot be allowed to declare bankruptcy, even if it is in a hopeless condition."

According to the Chinese press, in 1985 the government spent 48 billion yuan, or 20 percent of the annual revenue, on covering domestic deficits. True, it is acknowledged that the greater part of these subsidies are "absolutely necessary," being associated with an imperfrect pricing system and other factors not dependent on the enterprises' own activity. This important feature was also taken into account: The bankruptcy law was preceded by a widening of enterprises' rights in the sphere of production and economic planning, output sales, and pricing, and by the introduction of a system of labor contracts -- that is, enterprises are guaranteed a certain degree of autonomy. However, those who regard the bankruptcy law as premature or unnecessary say that economic conditions have not yet been created for the enterprises' directors such that they can be required to bear full responsibility for the results of economic activity. For instance, the aforementioned law on enterprises under the ownership of the whole people has not yet been adopted.

The prevailing viewpoint is this: "The bankruptcy law helps to eradicate the habit of feeding from the state's great pot, promotes the development of competition, ensures the legitimate rights of creditors and debtors, makes enterprises improve their economic activity, increases their entrepreneurial spirit and economic efficiency, and turns them into really autonomous socialist commercial producers responsible for their own profits and losses."

Chen Shuyan, former employee of the bankrupt Shenyang factory, says: "I am over 50. I am an unskilled worker, and I have no certainty of finding a new job. In which case the rest of my life will be difficult."

Zhou Guiying, director of a foundry, who also received notification of forthcoming bankruptcy but managed to sharply improve economic indicators afterward, said this: "We all — the leadership and the workers — now realize that if our plants go bankrupt we will lose our jobs and be forced to live on allowances. This will make us care about the future of our enterprises."

Six enterprises in four Chinese cities were given a year's notice of forthcoming bankruptcy. Only one went bankrupt: The other five managed to rectify the situation. In the opinion of the editors of the BEIJING REVIEW, "this gives weight to the claim that the bankruptcy law will be more of a surgical scalpel than a lethal weapon for the ailing enterprises." Liu Ruilong, member of the NPC Standing Committee, expressed roughly the same idea, resorting to soccer terminology and calling this law a "yellow card" [warning given before a player is sent off] which will be shown to enterprises which are working badly.

MEETING MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF PRC'S ZHU DE

LD222322 Moscow TASS in English 1957 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 22 TASS -- A festive meeting of the Soviet public was devoted to the 100th birth anniversary of Marshal Zhu De (1886-1976), the prominent statesman of the People's Republic of China. It was held in Moscow today.

Yevgeniy Ivanov, first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies, and other speakers pointed to the great contribution by Marshal Zhu De, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, to the victory of the anti-Japanese struggle of the Chinese people and the people's Revolution, to socialist construction in China. It was noted that Zhu De won prestige and respect of his comrades-in-arms both by his military talent and high human qualities: honesty, straightforwardness and adherence to principles.

It was noted at the meeting that ZHU De had been a great friend of the Soviet Union, called for preserving and strengthening Soviet-Chinese relations. His speech at the 20th CPSU Congress where he led the Chinese delegation, was key-noted for the spirit of belief in the vanguard role of the communist movement and respect for the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet peple know and revere Zhu De as a prominent military leader and staunch fighter for national and social liberation of the Chinese people. He devoted his life to the cause of the Chinese revolution and socialist construction.

The meeting was attended by Li Zewang, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, and staff members of the Chinese Embassy in the USSR.

TASS NOTES REELECTION OF DPRK'S KIM IL-SONG

LD290921 Moscow TASS in English 0751 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Pyongyang December 29 TASS -- Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, was re-elected president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the first session of its Supreme People's Assembly, which opened here today.

LIGHT INDUSTRY OFFICIAL ON COOPERATION WITH DPRK

PM290955 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 21 Dec 86 p 3

[Interview with A. Adomaytis, USSR deputy minister of light industry, by correspondent A. Zaytsev under the rubric "Facets of Integration": "Pooling Resources"]

[Text] An intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in the production of light industrial goods during 1987-1990 and the period through the year 2000 has been signed in Moscow between the USSR and the DPRK. Our correspondent asked A. Adomaytis, USSR deputy minister of light industry, to comment on that fact.

[Adomaytis] In brief, the essence of the agreement is that the Soviet side pledges to supply DPRK enterprises with raw materials, semimanufactured goods, and subassemblies necessary for the production of sewn goods. And the Korean side pledges to use them to produce finished goods, which will then be sold in the USSR.

[Zaytsev] This year it has already been possible to see in ready-made clothes stores in Vladivostok, Irkutsk, Ufa, Kazan, and other RSFSR cities men's woolen suits and pants and women's silk dresses manufactured in the DPRK from Soviet raw materials...

[Adomaytis] Right. Those deliveries were made under a protocol concluded at the end of last year and were a kind of test of a new form of economic cooperation. Both in our opinion and from our Korean partners' viewpoint, it proved successful. Having examined the experience accumulated during the year, we decided to develop that cooperation and draw up an agreement. It has considerably expanded the range and volumes of products manufactured under shared production. Some 19 Soviet enterprises participate in supplying raw materials, which will go to 6 sewn goods factories in the DPRK. Their products will go toward paying off Soviet credits to the DPRK.

With a view to strengthening the material and technical base of DPRK enterprises, the Soviet Union will supply them with the necessary machinery and equipment, send specialists to provide practical assistance and technical consultation, and receive Korean specialists and workers for training.

The agreement also provides for the delivery of complete Soviet equipment for two textile combines, each with a capacity of 100,000 spinning spindles, which will be constructed in the DPRK with the USSR's technical assistance. It is proposed that one of them will be created as a joint enterprise of the two countries.

[Zaytsev] What are the other advantages of such collaboration for each side?

[Adomaytis] Without additional labor expenditure we obtain finished products, making up for a certain shortage of these. Available raw material resources, which a number of our enterprises have insufficient manpower to utilize, are brought into play. In the DPRK, as we know, the situation is different. The expansion and modernization there of light-industry enterprises must promote the fuller utilization of labor reserves, the development of industry, and the growth of the working class -- which is, of course, of great socioeconomic significance.

[Zaytsev] What is the potential for this kind of cooperation in the light-industry sphere with the other socialist countries?

[Adomaytis] We consider the development of shared production with a number of countries a great reserve for improving our sector's foreign economic activity, and we intend to make active use of it. Several groups of our specialists were sent recently to Vietnamese footwear and sewn goods enterprises to arrange such production, and the first contracts have been signed for the manufacture of products in the SRV from Soviet raw materials. The conclusion of an agreement analogous to that signed with the DPRK is possible in the long term with Cuba and Mongolia.

NAKASONE CITED ON 'ILLEGAL TERRITORIAL CLAIMS'

PM151705 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 15 December in its First Edition carried on page 6 under the headline "Captive of the Old Thinking" a 900-word article by its own correspondent Yu. Vdovin, datelined Tokyo, December.

Vdovin begins with a brief description of the Japanese Government's parliamentary difficulties, sums up Prime Minister Nakasone's actions while in office, cites several excerpts from his speeches and statements, and goes on:

"It is said in the prime minister's entourage that he preceives the improvement of relations with the Soviet Union as his main task during the last year in that office. This can only be welcomed. But these good wished by the prime minister are in no way backed by reports that Nakasone cannot imagine good-neighborly and friendly relations with our country unless illegal territorial claims against the USSR are satisfied."

FISHING COMPENSATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH JAPAN

LD261650 Moscow TASS in English 1637 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 26 TASS -- All the claims between Soviet and Japanese fishermen in the course of fishing operations off the Japanese coast to the year 1986 have been settled on a mutually acceptable basis. A protocol fixing compensation sums was signed here today upon the end of the third joint meeting of a Japanese and a Soviet commission. Soviet-Japanese relations in fishing, one of the better developed sphere of bilateral economic cooperation, keep growing in various ways. Prospects for joint ventures are being discussed at present.

IZVESTIYA RECALLS SENDING OF TROOPS TO DRA

PM261910 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Kapralov "International Commentary": "Loyalty to International Duty"]

[Text] This year has been marked by positive changes on Afghan soil. The military-political situation in the country has stabilized. The combat capability of the DRA Armed Forces has increased, as shown by the operations to eliminate large counterrevolutionary strongpoints in Khowst District, Paktia Province and in Herat Province. But the main battle under way in Afghanistan today is not taking place on the battlefield; it is the battle for the hearts and minds of Afghans, who realize that the progress of the national-democratic revolution is being accomplished in the people's interests.

Prospects for the PDPA's proclaimed course of national reconciliation are also emerging. For the first time ever in the country, there have been elections to local organs of power and prominent politicians who do not belong to the ruling party have been included in the government. The DRA leadership is prepared to travel further along the road of national reconciliation, up to and including the creation of a government of national unity and could also include representatives of the political forces that have temporarily found themselves outside Afghanistan.

The PDPA's authority has increased; its style and methods of activity are improving. The country's economy has strengthened. Afghan working people have now exceeded the main prerevolutionary indicators and are successfully implementing the 5-year plan. However, those who are not suited by the achievement of peace and harmony on Afghan soil and the establishment of good-neighborly relations between the DRA and neighboring countries are still attempting to impede Afghans' plans for construction and peaceful labor.

Western propaganda conceals the truth about events surrounding Afghanistan behind a thick screen of lies and slander. The truth is that the undeclared war against the young republic was begun long before our country responded to the Afghan Government's request and the limited Soviet troop contingent was introduced onto DRA territory.

Just 2 months after the victory of the April national-democratic revolution, a NATO command conference held in the United States decided to give extensive support to the Afghan counterrevolutionary formations. Under the leadership of a special group of CIA agents, a network of camps was deployed along the Afghan-Pakistani border, and by the end of 1979 around 100,000 bandits had been trained at them.

They began to perpetrate terrorist and sabotage actions on DRA territory on a large scale. An airborne landing operation in which counterrevolutionary forces transferred from Pakistan were to capture all major Afghan cities was planned for the start of 1980.

The USSR did not leave the Afghan people in the lurch in this critical situation; the help that the DRA had repeatedly requested from the Soviet Union during 1979 arrived in time. Factors that were considered here were the real danger of Afghanistan losing its independence and the threat to the security of our country's southern borders.

Both before December 1979 and later, the USSR and the DRA persistently called and continue to call on the United States, Pakistan, and the other Western countries to end their interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. [paragraph continues]

However, Washington, while hypocritically lamenting the Afghan people's sufferings, is doing its utmost to prolong those sufferings and to impede the process of a political settlement surrounding Afghanistan.

Recently, desiring to expedite a political settlement and to give it yet another fillip, the Soviet leadership decided to withdraw six regiments from Afghanistan, and these have now returned home. In taking this step, the Soviet Union proceeded from the assumption that those who are organizing and implementing the armed intervention against the DRA would correctly understand and properly evaluate it. The response to it should be the curtailment of external interference in Democratic Afghanistan's internal affairs.

So far there have been no steps in response from the Western countries. They clearly forget that the Soviet Union will not leave its neighbor in the lurch if the intervention against the DRA is continued. Our solidarity with the Afghan people is immutable.

DRA'S NAJIB ADDRESSES ARMY YOUTH CONFERENCE

PM281712 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Dec 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "All-Army Conference"]

[Text] Kabul, 23 Dec -- The second all-Army conference of primary organization secretaries of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan [DYOA] has opened here. It will discuss tasks concerning the further improvement of work on the ideological and political education of personnel and the enhancement of the Afghan Army's combat ability and combat readiness.

Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, addressed the participants. With the Soviet Union's fraternal help, he said, our Army's servicemen are confidently defending the gains of the April Revolution. Noting the heroism and valor displayed by young people in the Army in battles against the motherland's enemies, the PDPA Central Committee decided to award the Honorary Red Banner to the DYOA Army organization.

Major tasks face the youth organizations in the Army under contemporary conditions. These tasks are being implemented under conditions of undeclared war by the forces of imperialism and reaction against Democratic Afghanistan. The PDPA is taking measures to enhance the combat ability of the DRA Armed Forces. Today the Army has firmly taken the initiative in the struggle against the counterrevolution. The main task of young people in the Army is to raise the combat and political training of unit and subunit personnel to a level which would make it possible to be totally independent in performing combat tasks in destroying the counterrevolution and reliably defending the motherland.

The PDPA and the DRA Government have been and are advocating political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. They sense in this the support of the CPSU and the Soviet Government. During my recent visit to Moscow, I was convinced once again that our opinions on this problem coincide fully. We have made considerable efforts to normalize the situation. In line with the agreed position, these efforts will be built up in the future.

The conference was addressed by Major General M. Rafi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA minister of defense, and Maj Gen (Z. Ziyarmal), chief of the Afghan Army Main Political Directorate.

DUSHMAN SAYS U.S. 'CONTROLLING' REBEL TRAINING

PM291019 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA on 18 December 1986 in its Morning Edition carries on pages 1 and 4 a 600-word report by D. Meshchaninov under the heading "Evidence of Captured Dushman." Arrested by the DRA state security organs, dushman (Sher Afzal) says that it is "in Pakistan that the CIA -- in close contact with the Pakistani special services and counterrevolutionary leaders in Pakistan -- recruits and trains a large proportion of its agents to be sent into Afghanistan." Asked how he himself became a counterrevolutionary, he explains that, the Dushmans being "in extreme need of literate people," they forced him to cooperate by "seizing his father and promising that they would kill him if he, (Afzal), did not agree to join them." Giving details of the special training courses for counterrevolutionaries in Pakistan, he says that one point constantly reiterated to the trainees was the "need to seek out 'valuable people' in DRA party and state institutions in order to find out about the government's plans and, at the same time, to move their own agents into crucial positions." One thing of which (Sher Afzal) is sure is that the Americans "are completely responsible for organizing and controlling the training of the mercenaries waging the bloody war against Afghanistan."

SHEVARDNADZE HOLDS TALKS WITH INDIAN ENVOY

LD271227 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 27 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, has received today India's Ambassador to the USSR Triloki Nath Kaul.

The conversation covered issues pertaining to the implementation of the agreements reached in the course of the official friendly visit to India in November this year of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It was pointed out that the talks held in Delhi between the leaders of the USSR and India, the joint documents signed during the visit lay a good groundwork for a further development and perfection of the whole complex of Soviet-Indian relations, taking cooperation between the two countries to a qualitatively higher level.

Both sides stressed that the "Declaration on Principles for a Nuclear Weapon-Free and Non-Violent World" signed in Delhi has become an important positive factor in the system of present-day international relations, has been a weighty contribution to forming new political thinking in this nuclear-space age.

Triloki Nath Kaul spoke highly of the Soviet initiatives directed at strengthening peace and stability in Asia and the whole world, the USSR's constructive stand on the question of a ban on nuclear weapons tests.

Eduard Shevardnadze highly evaluated India's peaceable policy, her consistent statements against the arms race, for a peaceful settlement of international problems.

Both sides have reaffirmed that the Soviet Union and India will carry on efforts directed at improving the situation in Asia and the world as a whole, lessening the threat of war and ensuring the triumph of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and full mutual understanding characteristic of the Soviet-Indian relations.

VANUATU RESPONSE ON FISHING AGREEMENT LAUDED

PM231325 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[K. Mitin article: "Rebuff Given"]

[Text] As is known, a draft fishing agreement between the USSR and Vanuatu, a small state in the South Pacific, was initialed 11 December.

Australian Foreign Minister W. Hayden found it possible to declare in this connection that "the new agreement...will lead to the Soviet Union's penetration of the South Pacific and even...could undermine Vanuatu's political base." Hayden also telephoned the Vanuatuan capital and tried to intimidate Vanuatuan Foreign Minister Sela Molisa with the "red danger."

According to a UPI report from Canberra, Vanuatuan Prime Minister Walter Lini gave a worthy rebuff to the Australian minister's fabrications. He described Hayden's revelations as "naive and patronizing" and resolutely rejected the fabrication about the "undermining" of Vanuatu's political stability as a result of concluding the agreement with the Soviet Union. Lini called Hayden's statement a manifestation of "paranoia" equivalent to statements about the "Russian threat." Being a nonaligned and nuclear-free state, Lini said, Vanuatu will not allow foreign powers to use its territory for military purposes.

AUSTRALIAN OPPOSITION VIEWS ON S. PACIFIC HIT

PM241459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[O. Skalkin "Rejoinder": "Peacock Takes Umbrage"]

[Text] If one is to judge by the statements of Andrew Peacock, who is in charge of foreign affairs in the shadow cabinet of the Australian Liberal Party, the foreign policy platform of the main force in the country's parliamentary opposition today, as in the old days, is held up by two rotten supports. Blind emulation of the United States, which was responsible for involving the country in the U.S. adventure in Indochina with grievous consequences for Australia and the Liberals themselves. The other element which has become ingrained is its anti-Soviet rhetoric which employs the most unworthy methods and is nearly always filled with unpardonable falsification.

The latest target of Peacock's statements is Soviet policy in the Pacific Ocean and the USSR's cooperation with countries in this part of the world. The aim of these insinuations is perfectly transparent. This cooperation is not to the liking of Peacock and others like him.

Several months ago, at parliamentary debates on the draft law on a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific, the Liberals and their foreign policy representative refused point-blank, for example, to support the Rarotonga Treaty, with which the peoples of the Pacific link their hopes of a peaceful future. At Washington's prompting, they "exposed" the Soviet threat in the Pacific and are now doing their utmost to inflate this ill-intentioned myth. The Americans do not like the fact that small Pacific countries now have the opportunity to develop economic ties with the Soviet Union on a fair basis and more effectively defend their national interests. So Peacock and other conservatives are making a lot of noise about "Moscow's intrigues."

The spokesman for the opposition glibly claimed in parliament, for example, that with the aid of fishing agreements the Soviet Union is trying "to buy itself the opportunity to penetrate the South Pacific." "The Soviet Union's ultimate aim is to destabilize peace in our region," he said casually a few minutes later. Proof? There is none, of course. And the shadow minister is confusing the issue.

In particular, he has crudely distorted both the spirit and the meaning of M.S. Gorbachev's Vladivostok speech, which sets out Soviet policy in the Asia-Pacific region. The policy speech by the Soviet leader, which has met with a good response, including in the capitals of South Pacific countries, discussed jointly building new, just relations in Asia and the Pacific Ocean and outlined ways of achieving this aim.

Peacock has no idea of how timely and important honest, just economic relations, including in the fishing sphere, are to the region's young developing states which have been robbed for centuries and are still being exploited today by imperialist benefactors. In many cases, fishing is an extremely important -- if not the only -- source of foreign currency for countries dependent on importing essentials, and their hopes of strengthening their independence are connected with it.

But Mr. Peacock drones on and on, regardless of everything.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH PRK

PM291003 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Economic Ties Developing"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 17 Dec -- A routine session of the Soviet-Cambodian intergovernmental commission on trade, economic, scientific, and technical ties has been held here. It discussed questions relating to the further development of Soviet-Cambodian economic ties. In particular, it examined progress in the fulfillment of the program of cooperation in the sphere of natural rubber production in the PRK and summed up the fulfillment of pledges on deliveries of goods. A protocol was signed on further improving the efficiency of the operation of facilities constructed in the PRK with Soviet technical assistance. Also, a program of scientific and technical cooperation between Soviet and Cambodian organizations in 1986-1990 was approved and a corresponding agreement was signed.

A protocol was signed at the end of the session which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding.

The Soviet delegation was headed by USSR Council of Ministers Deputy Chairman V.K. Gusev and the Cambodian delegation by PRK Council of Ministers Deputy Chairman Chea Soth.

V.K. Gusev was received by Hun Sen, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers.

GROMYKO, SFRY ENVOY HOLD 'FRIENDLY' TALK

PM241803 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

["Conversation With SFRY Ambassador" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Dec -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on 24 December received Milan Veres, SFRY ambassador to the USSR. They met in the Kremlin at the latter's request, and had a friendly talk.

M. Veres reported that profound satisfaction was expressed at an LCY Central Committee Presidium session with the exhaustive exchange of opinions which took place recently in Moscow between an LCY delegation headed by M. Renovica, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and a CPSU delegation headed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The results of the talks, in the opinion of the Yugoslav leadership, make an important contribution to the development of friendly relations between the LCY and the CPSU and between the SFRY and the USSR. The LCY Central Committee Presidium spoke in favor of continuing the top-level dialogue.

A.A. Gromyko noted the important significance of Soviet-Yugoslav talks for deepening mutual trust and confidence between the two parties and states and for the further steady development of Soviet-Yugoslav ties in all spheres.

The sides spoke highly of the constructive and stable nature of Soviet-Yugoslav relations and drew attention to the urgent need for immediate actions by all states toward achieving universal disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament. In this connection the historic significance of the Soviet Government statement of 18 December 1986 was pointed out.

A.A. Gromyko stressed that the Soviet Union will continue the struggle to implement the program for phased elimination by the end of the century of all nuclear weapons and other mass destruction systems, as set forward in the 15 January 1986 statement of M.S. Gorbachev and in proposals put forward at the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF MSZMP'S LAZAR

Marjai Meets With Antonov

LD201816 Budapest MTI in English 1615 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, December 20 (MTI) — Deputy Prime Ministers Jozsef Marjai of Hungary and Alexey Antonov of the Soviet Union, vice-chairmen of the Hungarian-Soviet Economic and Technical-Scientific Cooperation Committee, held talks in Moscow on Saturday. Including experts of their parties, they discussed issues on the development of bilateral economic and technical-scientific cooperation, paying special attention to questions to be discussed during the forthcoming talks of Prime Ministers Gyorgy Lazar and Nikolay Ryzhkov.

The parties discussed current issues and targets of bilateral cooperation and questions related to the Budapest session of the committee to be held in January 1987.

After concluding his talks, Jozsef Marjai left for home.

Ryzhkov, Lazar Hold Talks

PM241823 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 First Edition pp 1, 4

["Soviet-Hungarian Talks" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Dec -- Talks were held in the Kremlin 23 December between N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Gyorgy Lazar, member of the Politburo of the MSZMP Central Committee and chairman of the Hungarian People's Republic [HPR] Council of Ministers.

Taking part in the talks were:

On the Soviet side -- N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan; A.K. Antonov and V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade; K.F. Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for foreign economic links; V.P. Loginov, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; and B.I. Stukalin, ambassador of the USSR to the HPR.

On the Hungarian side -- F. Havasi, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee; L. Faluvegi, deputy chairman of the HPR Council of Ministers and chairman of the HPR National Planning Office; J. Marjai, deputy chairman of the HPR Council of Ministers; and S. Rajnai, HPR ambassador in the USSR.

N.I. Ryzhkov and G. Lazar exchanged information on the economic and sociopolitical development of both countries, and on the steps taken in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 13th MSZMP Congress on improving management of the national economy, raising the efficiency of the economy, and speeding up scientific and technological progress.

During the course of the negotiations the main attention was given to issues relating to further deepening of the many-sided cooperation between the USSR and HPR in the next few years and in the long term. It was pointed out with satisfaction that Soviet-Hungarian relations are developing steadily and dynamically on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, and that full unity exists in the USSR's and HPR's conduct of the principled course towards further strengthening fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between them in the interests of the peoples of both countries.

The heads of government pointed out the particular significance of the working meeting of the leaders of the fraternal parties of the socialist CEMA member countries in Moscow this year in terms of further perfecting cooperation between the socialist countries and more fully revealing the constructive potential of socialism, in the cause of the struggle for strengthening peace and international security.

Stress was laid on the determinant significance of M.S. Gorbachev's and J. Kadar's meeting and coversations and the accords reached at them for further improving and raising the efficacity of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation in all fields, and for conveying them to a qualitatively new level.

The heads of government gave special attention to an examination of specific measures for implementation of the accords, reached at the summit level, in the field of the commercial, economic, scientific, and technical relations of the two countries. Positive appraisal was made of the work carried out to develop Soviet-Hungarian trade, as a result of which it is envisaged that the volumes of two-way deliveries defined by the long-term agreement between the USSR and HPR for 1986-90 will be exceeded, natural gas deliveries from the USSR to the HPR will be ensured on a long-term basis, and work will be stepped up in the framework of the most progressive forms of economic cooperation.

It was deemed important to speed up the implementation of measures to deepened scientific-technological and production cooperation between the two countries, primarily in the fulfillment of the tasks of the Comprehensive Program for the CEMA Member-Countries' Scientific-Technical Progress to the Year 2000, the activation of cooperation in modernization, and the greater use of production capabilities and economy of resources.

With the aim of determining the most important tasks and ways of developing cooperation in the long term, an accord has been reached on elaborating in 1987 concepts of the development of economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and the HPR for 15 to 20 years, linked with the coordinated concept of the division of labor within the community that is being prepared on a multilateral basis.

Emphasis was placed on the need for a more active application in practice of such forms of production coordination as the establishment of direct ties between enterprises, economic, and scientific research institutions, and the creation of joint enterprises, international associations, and organizations. The Soviet-Hungarian intergovernmental agreements signed in accordance with the decisions of the 42d CEMA session in November this year on these questions create favorable conditions for this. In the view of the two sides, the spreading of progressive forms of economic and scientific-technical coopertion will promote not only a deepening of socialist economic integration, but also a broad exchange of experience; it will permit direct ties between labor collectives and the working people of the fraternal countries to move to a more stable and long-term basis.

Confidence was expressed that the all-round improvement and enrichment of economic interaction between USSR and the HPR will assist in the successful solution to the tasks of accelerating the socioeconomic development of both countries and in raising the well-being of their peoples.

During an exchange of views on topical international issues, the sides stressed that in the conditions of tension being maintained in the world, caused by the desire of the United States and their allies to achieve military-strategic superiority, it is necessary to urgently continue to build up the joint efforts of the countries of the socialist community and all peace-loving forces directed toward stopping the dangerous arms race, ridding mankind of the nuclear threat, and creating a universal system of international security. These aims are served by the large-scale initiatives of the Soviet Union on the elimination of arsenals of nuclear weapons and against the creation of strike space weapons. Both sides pointed out the importance of continuing the struggle to stop nuclear testing and of giving it new impetus. In this connection G. Lazar stated full support for the constructive stance of the USSR as laid out in the Soviet Government statement of 18 December this year.

The heads of government advocated the continuation of the all-European process, a reduction of the level of military confrontation, and an improvement of the political climate on the European continent. The realization of the proposals of the Budapest conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states for a substantial reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe world be a major step in this direction.

The negotiations were conducted in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere, and confirmed the unity of views on the issues discussed.

G. Lazar invited N. I. Ryzhkov to pay an official friendly visit to the HPR. The invitation was gratefully accepted.

Zaykov, Havasi Hold Talks

LD231543 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met today with Comrade Havasi, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee. During the conversation, which was held in a warm, comradely atmosphere, an exchange of opinions took place on matters relating to party management of the national economy and strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries.

Ryzhkov Luncheon Speech

PM241825 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

["Comrade N.I. Ryzhkov's Speech" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government, I cordially welcome Comrade Lazar and Comrade Havasi, and all the Hungarian friends here present. We are pleased with this new meeting.

The responsibility and scope of the tasks posed by the congresses of our fraternal parties also require new approaches in solving questions of cooperation betweeen the Soviet union and the Hungarian People's Republic [HPR] and in raising its role in the socioeconomic development of both countries. It was to these important goals that we devoted today's talks, which passed in businesslike atmosphere and in a spirit of mutual understanding and comradeship. The talks proved, we note with great pleasure, that complete unity is characteristic in Soviet-Hungarian relations, with both countries and parties carrying out the principled policy of further strengthening fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between them, in the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Hungary, and of the whole socialist community.

By following the policies of our party Central Committees, the accords reached during the meetings and conversations between Comrades M.S. Gorbachev and J. Kadar and as a result of the talks held, we will make new and significant step toward expanding our economic and scientific-technical relations, increasing their effectiveness, and providing the necessary groundwork for the future.

One must say that both sides, their ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations have carried out important preparatory work in joint efforts toward the task of effectively utilizing the industrial and scientific potential of the USSR and the HPR, and widely introducing new progressive forms into our cooperation. This work must yield tangible results.

Our joint task is, without delay, to set about implementing the moves outlined in total accordance with the agreements reached, and with those goals set out in the Integrated Program for Scientific and Technological Progress of the CEMA Member Countries to the Year 2000.

One may say with complete confidence that there is a great future for such progressive forms of cooperation as the deepening of coordination and specialization, the establishment of direct links between enterprises, associations and organizations, and the creation of joint enterprises, international associations, and organizations. And although it plays an enormous role, what is important here is not the economic aspect but the political side of things too, because favorable opportunities are being created for broader joint activity and contact between the labor collectives of the Soviet Union and Hungary.

Life itself and the contemporary stage of the scientific and technical revolution dictate that the process of socialist economic integration of the fraternal countries should be deepened and accelerated. The very important significance of this factor in securing all-round progress of the socialist community was pointed out at the working meeting of the leaders of the fraternal parties of the socialist CEMA member countries which took place in Moscow in November of this year, the results of which are of exceptionally great importance for the development prospects of the entire community and of every fraternal country, and for raising the level of their cooperation in all spheres.

In elaborating and implementing plans of peaceful construction, the socialist countries cannot fail to take into account the international situation, which remains complex and contradictory. The modern world contains simultaneously both the threat of a nuclear catastrophe and the mighty peaceful potential of detente and cooperation between peoples. The socialist countries are doing everything possible to strengthen this potential even further and to halt the arms race, which is being used by imperialism's aggressive circles, the United States first and foremost, in the dangerous chimera of gaining supremacy in space and on earth. The United States' refusal to join the Soviet moratorium on nuclear blasts, which the Soviet Government once again appealed to it to do in its statement of 18 December, is also evidence of this. However, no matter how much they would like to, the United States and its NATO allies are unable to belittle the significance of the large-scale Soviet proposals for radical reductions and the elimination of nuclear arms, which have inspired wide circles of the world public.

In these conditions, the unity of the socialist community countries, their coordinated actions, and the acceleration of joint efforts in the struggle for peace are of increasing importance. The implementation of the Budapest initiative of the Warsaw Pact states would be a major step in strengthening European and international security, and the HPR plays an active role in advancing this. The implementation of this initiative, just like the implementation of other constructive proposals from the fraternal countries, would promote the curbing of the arms race and the strengthening of peace in Europe and throughout the world.

Permit me to wish you, esteemed Comrade Lazar, all the Hungarian comrades present here, and the fraternal Hungarian peoples, great success in socialist construction and in resolving the important tasks set by the 13th MSZMP Congress, and also peace and prosperity in the approaching new year.

May the inviolable friendship between our countries and peoples strengthen and develop!

Lazar Reply Speech

PM241827 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

["Comrade G. Lazar's Speech" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Let me take this opportunity to express gratitude to the Government of the Soviet Union and to you personally, dear Comrade Ruzhkov, for the invitation and also for the attention shown to us from the moment of our arrival. I am particularly grateful to you for the warm words which have been addressed to our party and our people.

It is an honorable and agreeable task for me to convey to you and through you to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Government, and the Soviet people cordial and comradely greetings from the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee and personally from Comrade Janos Kadar, and also friendly good wishes from our government and our entire people. Returning to Budapest, I will be able to report that having fulfilled the instructions of the leaders of our parties, we have had a detailed and successful conversation with Comrade Ryzhkov with regard to the opportunities and conditions for the further development of our economic relations and that we have, on the basis of mutual understanding, defined the immediate and long-term tasks for deepening our cooperation. This fact, of importance to us, frankly pleases me.

You are aware, dear comrades, that the Central Committee of our party has recently put on the agenda and examined the economic activity since the 13th MSZMP Congress, our situation and the experience of the beginning of the Seventh 5-Year Plan. Critical and self-critical analysis has shown that although we have done a great deal, it is insufficient to be satisified with. On the contrary, facts show that this year, too, we failed to get our economy moving and that problems linked to its equilibrium have again been exacerbated.

This situation has, to no small extent, been created by reasons which we are unable to influence or on which our influence is insignificant. Nonetheless, the Central Committee did not point out these factors, but pointed out our weaknesses as the main reason for lagging behind demands. After a fundamental and in-depth discussion taking account of realities, the Central Committee confirmed that the basis of our activity continues to be the program adopted at the 13th congress and defined the tasks on that basis.

We recognize that by means of mobilizing our internal resources, by more efficient and higher quality work, modernizing production on the basis of unleashing technical progress, and further development of the management system we should, ourselves, create the conditions for fulfilling our 5-year plan. But we also recognize that in the interests of accelerating intensive development we cannot fail to make use of the advantages of deepening socialist economic integration and implementing the integrated program of scientific-technical progress. Therefore, as far as we are able, we are making every effort to implement the joint decision on renewing the structure of the activity of the CEMA.

Among our ties with CEMA member-states the multilateral and fruitful cooperation with our sincere friend the Soviet Union is of exclusively important significance for our country. [paragraph continues]

It is understandable therefore that people in Hungary are following with growing interest and deep sympathy the steps which are being undertaken to implement the program mapped out by the 27th CPSU Congress, which is of historic significance. Our people realize that the qualitative renewal of Soviet society and the Soviet economy, and the acceleration of scientific-technical progress open up new horizons also from the standpoint of our community's cooperation, and at the same time they strengthen and enhance the attractiveness of socialism on a world scale.

Even though briefly, I would like, on this occasion too, to say a few words about the fact that the MSZMP Central Committee, the HPR Government, and our entire society highly appraise the Soviet Union's efforts aimed at curbing the arms race, fully support Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's proposals put forward in Reykjavik and also during the post-Reykjavik period, and the initiatives formulated in the Budapest appeal of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact. We hope the the proposals and efforts aimed at preserving peace, at progress in the area of nuclear and conventional disarmament, which meet with ever greater support throughout the world, will, at long last, make the leading United States and NATO circles see the sense and remove obstacles along the path toward the commencement of disarmament.

Allow me to thank you once again for the invitation, for the friendly reception, for the understanding, and for the help. I am sure that the decisions adopted during our current talks promote the accelerated development of economic cooperation between our countries and the consolidation of friendship between our peoples.

Allow me to wish Communists of the Soviet Union and the Soviet people, on behalf of our Central Committee and out Government, further successes in the coming New Year as well in fulfilling the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and in building socialism.

In conclusion, G. Lazar proposed a toast to the development of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the two countries and wished health to M.S. Gorbachev and N.I. Ryzhkov and all the Soviet friends present there.

Sees Off Lazar

LD231825 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] On behalf of the USSR Government a luncheon was given in the Kremlin in honor of Gyorgy Lazar. On the Soviet side, Comrade Ryzhkov [no titles as received], Comrade Aliyev, member of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Comrade Talyzin, first candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and other officials attended.

Comrades Ryzhkov and Lazar exchanged speeches at the luncheon, which was conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere; these speeches were listened to with attention and greeted with applause.

In the evening, Gyorgy Lazar left the Soviet Union.

At the airport he was seen off by Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov and other officials.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH HUNGARY SIGNED IN BUDAPEST

PM221011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Protocol Signed"]

[Text] Budapest, 18 Dec -- A commodity turnover protocol between the USSR and Hungary for 1987 and other documents aimed at developing trade between the two countries were signed here yesterday. It is planned that there will be an increase in the volume of trade above the pledges planned by the 1986-1990 long-term trade agreement between the USSR and Hungary, and also that Hungary will participate in implementing the agreement on building the main gas pipeline between Yamburg and the USSR's western border, which will make it possible to provide natural gas deliveries from the USSR to Hungary on a long-term basis.

Foundations have been laid for further developing progressive forms of cooperation. For the first time, it is planned to supply goods and render services within the framework of implementing direct production ties between enterprises and organizations in the two countries and to support the activity of joint economic organizations and cooperation between a number of Hungarian and USSR enterprises.

It is planned to provide services and supply goods for the purpose of implementing the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000.

The documents were signed by B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade, and P. Veress, Hungarian minister of foreign trade.

PETROVSKIY, BULGARIA'S GOTSEV HOLD TALKS IN MOSCOW

LD252210 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0955 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 25 Dec (TASS) -- Soviet-Bulgarian political consultations were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry on 24-25 December, during which the sides exchanged opinions on a broad range of international problems. In particular, they discussed the results of the 41st session of the UN General Assembly, questions of raising the effectiveness of the work of that organization, and disarmament questions.

Taking part in the discussions were Vladimir Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister, and Lyuben Gotsev, deputy foreign minister of Bulgaria. Lyuben Gotsev also had a talk with Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister.

TASS CITES AFP ON IRAQI AIRLINER HIJACKING

LD251726 Moscow TASS in English 1659 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Paris December 25 TASS -- A group of terrorists hijacked today a civilian air plane of the Iraqi Airways Company bound for Amman. According to FRANCE PRESSE, the hijackers forced the crew to land in the airport of Turaba, Saudi Arabia. After the landing they blew up the plane. According to preliminary information, 59 people were killed.

EXPANDED RELATIONS WITH IRAN ENDORSED

NC282049 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1700 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The recent visit to Iran by a Soviet delegation headed by Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and the documents signed on the outcome of this meeting, have enraged opponents to good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Iran. They are doing their best to disseminate anti-Soviet calumnies and fabrications and to equate the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy and the United States' imperialist policy. However, efforts to equate two completely different stands are useless, like saying that black is white. We know that the United States, more than any other country, supported the shah until the end and tried to stifle the Iranian revolution. During the abortive Tabas operation the United States invaded Iranian territory, sent its warships toward Iranian shores, and threatened Iran with armed intervention. Moreover, Washington -- together with its allies -- organized an economic boycott of Iran and included it on a list of terrorist countries. All this occurred while the Soviet Union was adopting a completely different policy toward the newly-established Iranian Republic. It issued a strong warning to the United States, which was trying to interfere in Iran's domestic affairs. In addition, the Soviet Union placed at Iran's disposal a transit route for the transportation of Iranian cargo, helping to break the chains of the economic boycott. During the current anti-Soviet campaign, Iran's officials allege that the Soviet Union, like the United States, Britain, and France, is not impartial on the issue of the Iran-Iraq war. What can be said about such baseless allegations? The Soviet Union does not feel compelled to conceal its stand. The Soviet stand, as a neighbor with friendly feelings toward the Iranian and Iraqi people, is respectable. The Soviet Union wants the two Muslim neighbors to end the war and fratricide and to solve their conflicts at the negotiating table. The Soviet Union opposes the United States' aim of prolonging the war and adding fuel to the fire. We often hear Iranian officials cite (?withdrawal) of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan as a precondition for improving Soviet-Iranian relations. Such an approach (?from the point of view of international relations), is tantamount to intervention in the domestic affairs of an independent country. Everyone knows that the limited Soviet troops were sent to Afghanistan at the request of its government, in complete conformity with international norms, to thwart aggressions from abroad. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, it should be noted that Tehran does not [words indistinct] and wants to portray facts as though the Soviet Union is especially interested in expanding bilateral relations. [?However], [words indistinct], we want to remind those who like to pay lip service to this idea that our government announced, in the first years after the establishment of Soviet rule, that it considers appropriate only those relations with Iran based on the free agreement and mutual respect of both nations. Soviet-Iranian relations can be based only on mutual respect and full equality of rights, and both the Soviet and Iranian peoples will benefit from the expansion of these relations.

TASS STATEMENT ON 'INTERFERENCE' IN CHAD

PM291315 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

["TASS Statement" — PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The situation in Chad has become seriously aggravated in recent days. The developments in that African country which has been for a long time torn asunder by internecine strife are again taking a menacing turn.

It is noteworthy that imperialist powers, the United States in the first place, instead of promoting the earliest normalization of the situation in Chad, prefer to add fuel to the fire.

According to incoming information, large batches of U.S. arms arrive in Ndjamena while French planes deliver military equipment to the zone of combat operations.

The interference increases with every passing day although imperialist powers in words advocate restoration of peace and stability in Chad.

Certain U.S. quarters do not conceal a desire to set up a military-political staging area for pressure on Libya from the south.

It is clear that such actions are threatening to result in the Chadian conflict's developing into a large seat of international tension.

The Soviet Union invariably comes out in favor of a peaceful settlement of the conflict by the Chadians themselves without interference from the outside, and supports the efforts of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) aimed at achieving national reconciliation in that country.

An end should be put to the imperialist interference in Chad and to attempts at putting pressure on independent African countries.

DEMICHEV RECEIVES MALAGASY ENVOY'S CREDENTIALS

PM271504 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Credentials Presented"]

[Text] On 19 December Simon Rabuar Rabe, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, presented his credentials to P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in the Kremlin.

After the presentation of credentials and an exchange of speeches, a friendly conversation took place between P.N. Demichev and S.R. Rabe.

GORBACHEV ADDRESSES MEETING ON ECONOMY 24 DEC

LD252012 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] A meeting was held on December 24 in the CPSU Central Committee with the chiefs of union ministries and departments on the results of work in 1986 and the tasks facing us in the second year of the 5-year-plan period.

Opening the meeting, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed that the decisions of the party and its ideas are winning over more and more the minds of our cadres and labor collectives and are materializing in the economy and the social sphere. One cannot fail to see the positive progress made as we come to the end of the first year of the 5-year-plan period. All the figures indicate that the basic indicators of the national economic plan will be fulfilled. The ministries' style of work is changing and the initiative of enterprises is growing.

There are still, however, many problems. Our work -- its scale, depth, and efficiency -- are so far lagging behind the demands of the time. In a number of sectors and regions, due attention is still not being paid to social questions. Frequently the attention of ministries is concentrated primarily on production and the creation of capacities, while clearly insufficient attention is paid to solving social problems. It should be stressed once more that without an active social policy it is impossible to make an advance in production or the national economy as a whole. That is why the development of the social sphere must be constantly monitored. This concerns economic departments, ministries, local bodies, and party committees.

At the June plenum of the Central Committee it was stressed that each ministry was responsible for satisfying the requirements of the national ecnomy and the population for top-level goods. But as yet not all ministries have become true centers of scientific and technological progress and they are not fully stimulating the search in leading directions of scientific and technological policy. Growth in the technical level of output in certain industries is taking place slowly. The State Acceptance Service is now being put into operation. It is called upon to tighten up matters but the work that lies ahead is still great.

In the near future all ministries and departments will have to review the results of work of industries in the first year of the 5-year-plan period and the established practice of summing them up will have to be thoroughly changed with the accent being placed on the main problems that will determine both the rates of advancement and the emergence on the new qualitative levels in the economy. Matters concerned with speeding up scientific and technological progress, capital reconstruction and modernization, the introduction of shift work, and the more efficient use of highly productive equipment ought to be analyzed particularly deeply.

Finally, an exacting look ought to be taken at how the mastery of new methods of economic management is taking place and primarily at how cadres are mastering them. Every ministry, relying on the decision of the party and cooperating closely with science, ought to find its place in the leadership of economic sectors in raising the initiative and responsibility of enterprises and associations.

The new year of 1987, which the country will enter in several days time, has a number of fundamental and specific features.

It is the year that marks the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. It is the decisive year of the 5-year-plan period in which the levers of self-financing and full financial autonomy in a number of industries and at many enterprises and associations will start to operate. Construction, light industry, the agroindustrial complex, the services sphere, and trade will switch to the new principles of working. Measures will begin to be implemented to improve foreign economic relations.

In the area of the economy in the new year, a solid groundwork is to be laid in the reconstruction and modernization of production, in design and research work, and in the broad utilization of new mechanisms of economic management and administration. All this is intended to increase the productivity of public sector labor and to raise people's level of activity and responsibility.

The following spoke at the meeting:

Babenko, minister of construction in the eastern regions of the USSR;
Belousov, minister of the shipbuilding industry;
Kolesnikov, minister of the electronics industry;
Panichev, minister of the machine tool and tool building industry;
Yagodin, minister of higher and secondary specialized education;
Shkabardnya, minister of instrument making, automation equipment, and control systems;
Baklanov, minister of general machine building;
Pervyshin, minister of the communications equipment industry; and
Afanasyev, minister of heavy and transport machine building.

They stressed that the improvement that is being carried out of the production management system and the switch to a dual-level structure are proving to be fully justified and make it possible to increase the independence and responsibility of enterprises and associations.

Unanimous support was given to the well-founded formulation of the need to direct basic capital investments not to constructing new factories but to reconstruction and technical reequipment of existing enterprises and to effective utilization of the strong potential of machine-building and development of each industry's own machine tool building and instrument-making.

The speakers pointed out that industries now allocate over 10 percent of the capital investment intended for production construction to construction of housing, children's institutions, and resolving other social issues. Nevertheless, social problems are being resolved slowly. In connection with this, stress was laid upon the need for more vigorous introduction of the direct-labor method of construction, and for material and technical resources to be made immediately available for this. It was pointed out at the meeting that there is in the country a large army of qualified specialists, but that they are sometimes used ineffectively. For example, after the first 5 years work nearly half of the graduates from agrarian higher education institutions and engineers go into other spheres of the economy. The system of raising qualifications and retraining of cadres does not operate satisfactorily.

In a number of speeches it was emphasized that strengthening order and enhancing discipline in production should become anf essential condition for successfully fulfilling the 5-year plan. Now the main thing is to bring restructuring to each work station to interest the collective as a whole and each working man in attaining high results.

Summing up the results of the discussion, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev stressed that the restructuring that has begun in society is confidently gathering strength. It is being actively supported by the whole people. A genuinely profound change on a revolutionary scale is taking place. In these conditions a qualitatively different attitude to the matter at hand and self-sacrificing and resourceful labor for the well-being of our great motherland is demanded of every leader and every worker.

Comrade Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Comrade Zaykov and Comrade Ligachev, members of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the meeting.

TALYZIN, LIGACHEV ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL MEETING

LD271738 Moscow TASS in English 1702 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 27 TASS -- A meeting dealing with the problems of protecting Lake Baykal took place at the CPSU Central Committee on Friday [26 December].

Nikolay Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, made a report on the work done by the commission for the drafting of proposals to enhance the protection and rational utilization of the unique natural resource.

He pointed out that the negative impact of the economic activity on the condition of water and air environments of the region has diminished as a result of the taken measures.

Nikolay Talyzin reported drawbacks, unresolved questions and problems that had been identified as well as comprehensive measures which the commission had worked out to reduce the discharge of industrial effluents into Lake Baykal, to make air healthier, to protect forests, and to change the character of production at the Baykal pulp mill.

Spéakers at the meeting related the activities of ministries and departments to reduce the negative effect on the nature and the environment of Lake Baykal. They made specific proposals on matters under discussion.

The results of the meeting were summed up by Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He pointed out that the measures taken in accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee and the government had substantially changed the state of affairs in Lake Baykal area for the better. At the same time anxiety about its future persists.

It was emphasised that the idea is rationally to utilise and to protect the rich natural resource which is unequalled not only in the USSR but the world over as well.

An opinion was expressed that the implementation of the planned measures should be substantially expedited, that they should be given a realistic character, that necessary material and technical resources should be allocated for the purposes, and that concrete persons should be named to be in charge of the realization of the planned measures, without leaving loopholes for evading responsibility.

The USSR State Planning Committee was instructed to finalize as soon as possible the drafting of a resolution on the rational utilization and the protection of the natural environment of Lake Baykal, and to submit such a resolution to the CPSU Central Committee and to the government.

POLITBURO ASSESSES ALMA-ATA INCIDENT 25 DEC

LD252053 Moscow Comestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] At its 25 December session, the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee examined the issues of the creation and activity in the USSR of joint enterprises and associations with the participation of Soviet and foreign organizations and firms. As was pointed out during the discussion of this issue, the creation of these associations is an integral part of the measures directed at the improvement of the foreign economic activity of the Soviet state and at the intensificatjion of international cooperation, in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. Organizational, economic, and legal foundations, for the further development of the joint productive activity of Soviet enterprises with their partners from social'st countries, as well as from capitalist and developing state., were approved. These new forms of cooperation are directed at deepening socialist economic integration, making maximum use of scientific-technicl and production potential of the countries of the socialist community and also at broadening and strengthening mutually profitable economic relations with other states.

Operating in accordance with the legislation, as well as social and labor norms of our country, the joint enterprises will be completely financially autonomous, self-financing, and responsible for foreign currency recovery. One of their most important tasks consists in making active use of the advantages of the international division of labor, expanding the export base of the Soviet Union, accelerating scientific and technical progress, and satisfying the market for high-quality goods.

At the Politburo meeting measures for increasing production and improving the quality of sports goods were examined and approved. The essential importance of solving this problem for strengthening the health of Soviet people and organizing rewarding leisure for them was noted. The decision adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers regarding this issue makes provision in the 12th 5-year plan for the accelerated development of the production of sports and leisure goods and a considerable growth of the quality of this output so that the population's demand is satisfied more fully. For this purpose, the building of new enterprises and the reconstruction of already existing ones will be carried out. They will be fitted with modern equipment, new technologies will be introduced, the production of raw materials will be expanded, and scientific research will be further developed.

A report by Comrade Solomentsev about his trip to Alma-Ata, meetings and conversations with party and local soviet aktivs, and collectives of enterprises, establishments, and higher educational establishments of the town was heard.

It was noted in this respect that party organizations, the Communists, and the working people of the Kazakh SSR actively support the decisions of the recently held plenum of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee and are fighting persistently for successful fulfillment of the plan tasks of 1986, acceleration of the socioeconomic development of the republic, and improvement in people's conditions of labor and life. At the meetings being held, members of the party, members of the Komsomol, and working people sharply condemn the instances of manifestation of nationalism that took place in Alma-Ata and demand that their instigators be punished.

The competent bodies are conducting an investigation regarding the ringleaders of the disturbances, the hooligan and parasitical elements. The Politburo has instructed the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee to investigate carefully the events that have taken place and to adopt the necessary measures to improve emphatically the patriotic and internationalist education of the working people, the training and placement of cadres, and the deepening of fraternal ties with other republics of the Soviet Union.

The Politburo approved the results of the talks between Comrade Gorbachev and Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. It was noted that the atmosphere and content of the talks confirmed the durability of the goodneighborliness that has historically developed between the two countries and their adherence to the principles of equality and mutual respect. Satisfaction was expressed at the fruitful development of friendly and mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and the DRA in various fields. It was confirmed that in accordance with the course determined by the 27th CPSU Congress the Soviet Union will continue to do all it can in order that Soviet-Afghan relations might develop even further in the interests of our peoples and in the interests of the security of all countries in the region. The Politburo emphasized that the Soviet people's sympathies and suppport always have been and will on the side of the Afghan people who are courageously opposing attempts by international imperialism and regional reactionary forces to deprive them of the right to organize their life as they think best. Full support was expressed for the efforts of the Afghan leadership directed at implementing a policy of national reconciliation and at building a sovereign, independent, and nonaligned Afghanistan. A political settlement of the situation around the DRA, on the basis of ending and guaranteeing nonresumption of interference from outside, should be reached as quickly as possible, which would appropriately speed up the return home of the limited contingent of Soviet forces that is in that country at its government's request.

The Politburo heard a report by Comrade Ligachev about the participation of a CPSU delegation in the work of the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress and meetings and conversatiions with CPV general secretary Nguyen Van Linh, and other Vietnamese leaders. It was noted that the forum of the entire activity of the CPV and worked out a realistic program of action directed at comprehensive stabilization of socioeconomic development, and at creating the prerequisites for speeding up socialist industrialization and advancing the country along the road of socialism. Taking into account the results of the Sixth CPV Congress and the conversations that took place in Hanoi, it was proposed that Soviet ministries and departments work out, along with the appropriate Vietnamese organizations, specific measures for the further improvement of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and the SRV, and for a steady rise in its effectiveness. Some other issues of economic and social life, as well as of our party's and state's foreign policy activity, were discussed at the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session.

LEADERSHIP ISSUES STATEMENT ON DONETSK

LD251505 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1452 GMT 25 Dec 86

["From the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 25 December (TASS) -- At the "Yasinovskaya-Glubokaya" mine in Donetsk Oblast there was an explosion of methane gas on the 24 December, which entailed loss of life.

The CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers have expressed profound condolences to the families and relatives of those killed, the workers, and the engineering and technical staff of the mine.

The USSR Government and republican organs are taking measures to give help to the families of the dead miners and to eliminate the consequences of the accident.

Lyashko on Rescue Effort

LD262010 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 26 Dec 86

[from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As has already been reported, an accident has occurred at the Yasinovskaya Glubokaya mine. Our correspondent, Kondaurov, went to the mine today. [video shows exterior of mine administration buildings; rows of yellow and red emergency team buses, mining rescue teams wearing oxygen pack going into mine]

[Kondaurov] The situation at the Yasinovskaya Glubokaya mine has been normalized. But the teams of mining rescue workers are still on duty. Now an intensified ventilation regime is being carried out in all the workings; prophylactic measures are being carried out; water is being pumped out of the accident zone.

The government commission is carefully studying the causes of the accident; but it is already clear that on the day of the accident methane emission suddenly increased sharply in the working of the seventh section. An extraction team was working in the section, assembly of new equipment was under way, additional mining workings were being laid out. An explosion occurred, and a fire zone was formed in the working extending over 25 meters.

The detachment of mine rescue workers under (Valeriy Khatsko) boldly plunged through the fire zone to where the people were. They carried out the casualties, and teams of medical workers in the rescue detachments rendered aid on the spot. But unfortunately, they were unable to save everyone. [video shows miners underground, rescue teams walking along underground, correspondent talking to head of team]

The state commission is headed by Aleksandr Pavlovich Lyashko, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Ukrainian SSR. [video shows Lyashko, seated at table with other unidentified officials]:

[Begin recording] [Lyashko] First of all, I should point out the high level of organization and precision in the work of the mining rescue detachments. Suffice it to say that within 10 minutes of the signal for an accident at the mine -- which sounded at 11 hours and 15 minutes -- the mining rescue detachments were on the spot and started extinguishing the fire, which was put out within approximately 4 or 5 hours.

Then restoration work started. And as early as yesterday monitoring and inspection assembly work started in all other sectors; and at 2000 yesterday, the first working shift went down. Today all sectors at the mine, one can say, are at work, working in their normal rhythm. [video shows miners going into kit room picking up lamps and bags]

[Kondaurov] Did all the casualties receive aid?

[Lyashko] All the casualties received aid. No family has been left without attention. The commission will also receive each family specially in order to establish the set pension and other benefits for members of the family. [end recording]

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SOLOMENTSEV ALMA-ATA VISIT

Addresses Kazakh CP CC

PM241531 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 24 December 86 p 1

["Against Negative Phenomena" -- KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Today a session of the Bureau of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee was held, with the participation of first secretaries of party obkoms and senior officials of the republic's CP Central Committee. The Bureau of the Central Committee discussed the question of measures to eliminate the serious shortcomings existing in organizational party and ideological work, in selecting and placing cadres, and the internationalist upbringing of the population, especially young people. In the report by Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, and in the speeches by first secretaries of party obkoms [Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian at 1510 GMT on 23 December in an otherwise identical report here lists the following obkom secretaries: "Mendybayev, Alma-Ata; Davydov, Dzhezkazgan; Yerpilov, Pavlodar; Myrzashev, Chimkent; Auyelbekov, Kzyl-Orda; (Demidenko), Kustanay; Trofimov, Aktyubinsk; Kuanyshev, Turgay; and Kubashov, Semipalatinsk"] emphasis was placed on the need to take urgent measures to ensure a sharp about-face in the style and methods of the party leadership of economic and cultural building.

The unhealthy phenomena which took place on the 17th and 18th of December in the city of Alma-Ata make it necessary to pay special attention to internationalist upbringing. It is very important to carry out a restructuring of all party political work among the masses in working collectives and educational establishments, aiming to form in each person a lofty ideological awareness and moral qualities.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of stepping up the active struggle for discipline and order and a strict observance of the norms of party life against drunkenness, alcoholism, and other antisocial phenomena. Party workers must be the initiators of the idea of restructuring; they are obliged to take on a bigger load. They must be inventive and business-like, and solve problems that arise in an efficient manner.

The Bureau of the Central Committee expressed itself resolutely for the strict observance of the Leninist principles of selecting and placing cadres, and against the distortions in cadre policy which have taken place. Every leading official, whatever section of work he heads, must be an educator. This thoroughly applies to professors and teachers. A systematic contact with people should become an organic need of every leader, of party, Soviet, trade union and Komsomol workers.

It was noted that for a long time criticism and self-criticism, democratic norms and openness had virtually been absent in the republic's party organization. The Bureau of the Central Committee directed the party organizations to the speediest elimination of the shortcomings and errors outlined.

A speech was made at the session by Comrade Solementsev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Party Control Commission of the CPSU Central Committee. Razumov, first deputy chief of the Department of Party Organizational Work of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the work of the Bureau.

Visits Science Academy

LD241510 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 1500 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Party Control Committee of the CPSU Central Committee, and Gennadiy Vasilyevich Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh CP Central Committee, met today with scientists of the Kazakh SSR Academy of Sciences. At the focus of attention were issues of concrete participation of scientific workers in the implementation of the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress, of multiplying their contribution to the resolution of topical problems of scientific-technological progress, and of deeper study and interpretation of the phenomena of the life of society.

It was observed that a substantial alienation from the tasks of the republic's socioeconomic development has appeared in the work of the academy, and that vital problems of integrating science and production have not been resolved in good time; false accounting and infringement of the principles of selection and education of cadres have been tolerated, and there has been a lack of openness. The academy gives less help then is capable in the development of a number of leading industries and in drafting nature conservation measures.

Comrades Solomentsev and Kolbin, who spoke at the meeting, stressed that the academy's leadership and party organization should halt the negative phenomena and elements of stagnation and inertia as soon as possible, should make a radical improvement to all of its structural subdivisions, and should increase the responsibility of institutes of the Academy for enhancing the efficiency of scientific research and the creation of fundamentally new kinds of technology and processes.

Particular attention was devoted to the tasks of social scientists, who should reveal the advantages of the socialist system comprehensively and convincingly, make deeper study of relations between nationalities, and increase their contribution to the improvement of ideological-moral and internationalist education of working people, especially young people, and to asserting the norms of communist morals. It is necessary to strive for the optimum combination of fundamental and applied research, to strengthen the experimental base for these, improve training of scientific cadres, persistenly look for talented young people, and be bolder in promoting them.

Kamalidenov, secretary of the Kazakh CP Central Committee, was present at the meeting.

KOLBIN ADDRESSES KAZAKHSTAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE

LD271829 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1509 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] A conference has been held in the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee to examine the question of improving food supplies to the population. It was noted that when the food program targets are reached, townspeople and villagers are nevertheless not always supplied with the required volume and range of foodstuffs. Restructuring demands a review of the existing criteria and evaluations. Stress was laid at the conference on the importance not only of fulfulling plans for the production of high-quality agricultural produce for consumption, but also of ensuring the efficient organization of gathering in, transporting, storing, and processing the harvest and smooth deliveries of produce for marketing.

A correct and just distribution of the available food resources should be achieved everywhere so that in the coming days customers will actually see a perceptible improvement in the deliveries of foodstuffs to the shops.

In this connection, the leading workers in the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee and the Republican Council of Ministers are given the task of drawing up and implementing a package of measures aimed at reviewing the distribution of commodities in the republic and seeking out other reserves and possibilities so as to considerably improve the food supply to both the urban and the rural population.

During 1987 it is planned to build new storage facilities for agricultural produce and reconstruct existing ones, particular for potatoes, vegetables and fruit. The task was set to accelerate the construction of greenhouses on sovkhozes and kolkhozes so as to increase their area within a 3-year period to 1 square meter per each town inhabitant and, to this end, to make broad use of the material facilities and forces of industrial enterprises, construction sites, transport and other organizations. Party and local soviet chiefs in the rayons, towns and oblasts are made responsible for coordinating this work. It was decided from January 1987 onwards to satisfy to the maximum the population's requirements for meat, dairy produce, vegetables, fruit and other foodstuffs. Party and local soviet bodies must solve the questions of fully supplying trading enterprises with foodstuffs and by the end of the year eliminate the queues in food shops. Personal responsibility for improving the food supply to the population, observing the rules of Soviet trade and raising the level of service is borne by the first secretaries of party committees and the chairmen of executive committees of local soviets. Attention was paid to the need to efficiently organize and hold shopping fairs in workers' settlements, towns, rayon and oblast centers on holidays and during the runup to holidays.

The conference was addressed by Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee.

Anticrime Council Created

LD272008 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1509 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] A republic coordinating council under the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee has been set up to fight crime, alcoholism, drug addiction, and nonlabor income. At a meeting of the council chaired by Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, a broad program of measures was defined, in accordance with the directives of the CPSU Central Committee, for the eradication of these negative phenomena without delay. Stress was given to the need to make more active use of the legal rights available to fight these and to actively involve party, local soviet and trade union organizations, law enforcement bodies and the volunteer people's militia groups in this work.

The task was set of ensuring exemplary order and discipline in the near future in all population centers, fully protecting the population against encroachments by criminal, hooligan, and parasitical elements, and preventing the appearance of intoxicated people in public places. The most inveterate alcoholics and drug addicts must be isolated and sent to the relevant establishments for compulsory treatment.

The fight against nonlabor income should be stepped up using all possible forms and methods of work.

Financial bodies are requested to check within a short period of time whether labor resources are being used correctly at all enterprises, organizations, establishments, collective and state farms, and to step up the responsibility of chiefs for infringements of financial and staff discipline.

The members of the coordinating council spoke out about the need to wage an uncompromising fight against incidents of protectionism, nepotism, clannishness, bribery and abuse of official power, and to resolutely oppose everything that runs counter to the interests of the people and the state. All the people of the republic must be mobilized for this work, and no alarm signal coming to party bodies, local soviets or the mass media must be left ignored.

It was deemed expedient to set up similar councils under party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms for fighting crime, alcoholism, drug addiction and nonlabor income.

PRAVDA ASSESSES 'STRUGGLE' AGAINST NATIONALISM

PM271915 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "In a Unified Soviet Family"]

[Text] Every year at the end of December we celebrate a noteworthy date -- the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Its birth was an important milestone along the path of resolving the nationalities question and the continuation of the cause of Great October. Favorable conditions were created for developing and strengthening the friendship of all our country's nations and nationalities.

The higher that Soviet society ascends the rungs of progress, the more clearly visible is the historic significance of the peoples' voluntary unification in an indissoluble alliance. The concentration of material resources and efforts on the scale of a multinational power made it possible to accelerate the process of socialist transformations and defend what had been gained during the years of wartime turmoil. The strength of the fraternal alliance has been manifested particularly graphically in the transformation of formerly backward outlying regions. Today all 15 union republics and 38 autonomous formations not only enjoy equal political and economic rights but have also created their own powerful economy and achieved great successes in science, culture, and education.

The results of the transforming work carried out by the Communist Party in the sphere of national relations constitute an outstanding gain of socialism which has enriched world civilization. "National oppression and national inequality in all forms and manifestations have been destroyed once and for all," the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th congress noted. "Unbreakable friendship of the peoples and respect for all peoples' national culture and national dignity have been established and become part of the consciousness of tens of millions of people. The Soviet people constitute a new social and international community linked by a unity of economic interests, ideology, and political objectives."

However our achievements must not give the impression that there are no problems in national processes. Life is setting new tasks in improving the national relations of developing socialism. Today it is particularly important to see to it that all the republics' contribution to accelerating socioeconomic progress and developing the unified national economic complex matches their increased economic and spiritual potential. [paragraph continues]

Socialist internationalism in action means primarily honest, conscientious, and wholehearted labor by all peoples for the common benefit. To make this kind of labor the norm is the most important obligation of every republic's party, soviet, and social organizations. It is necessary to resolutely rebuff any attempts to place local interests above statewide interests, be it a question of a desire to "outdo" others in the utilization of unionwide funds or the unseemly practice of padding statistics or distorting plan and pledge fulfillment data.

The buildup of the Soviet state's might and wealth depends on the realization of the potential of every republic and every economic region. This will be promoted to a considerable extent by the territorial approach to planning and management. This is the objective of the measures to broaden the rights of republic and local organs in managing construction, intersector production processes, the social and production infrastructure, and many enterprises producing consumer goods.

Correct cadre policy has a great role to play in improving national relations. In selecting and assessing, deploying and redeploying, and educating and training cadres the Communist Party proceeds from the supreme interests of the all-union state. Disregarding of these interests or an orientation toward parochial, departmental, or localistic sentiments is fraught with the risk of sliding onto the path of favoritism and nepotism. Practice shows the vital need to promote representatives of all nations and nationalities to leadership [posts] and to ensure constant interregional exchange of cadres and experienced workers between the republics and the center and between the country's rayons and cities. This is the key to the speediest transfer of experience and the growth of the general standard of cadres.

The economic and social progress of all the nations and nationalities has led to the growth of their national self-awareness. At the same time pride in successes which have been achieved has nothing in common with national arrogance and conceit. Let us state frankly that phenomena of this kind have still not been eliminated. We are not only talking about vestiges of the past here. Feelings of complacency and total license, a desire to embroider the real state of affairs, the exaggeration of a given nation's contribution to the achievement of common successes, and the belittling or disregarding of the assistance of other nations' working people can serve as the soil nourishing such phenomena. The struggle against manifestations of nationalism and chauvinism and the education of Soviet people in the spirit of respect for and the friendship of the country's nations and nationalities and love for their great Soviet motherland is a task of abiding significance. All party and Komsomol organizations, soviets, and trade unions are called upon to resolve this task. It is necessary to be constantly guided by Lenin's behest: Marxism is irreconcilable with nationalism, be it of the most "just," "pure," fine, or civilized kind. Marxism advances internationalism in the place of any nationalism.

In our society internationalism is asserted in Soviet people's daily life and creative labor and in the struggle for acceleration and restructuring. Peoples of different nationalities live and cooperate fraternally in republics, oblasts, and rayons, at enterprises, and on kolkhozes. Multinational labor collectives are the very medium in which the internationalist spirit is best inculcated and the fraternity and friendship of the USSR's peoples is strengthened.

The spiritual ties of the nations and nationalities are deepening steadily and the Soviet people's unified culture -- a culture which is socialist in content, diverse in national form, and internationalist in spirit -- is developing on the basis of the best achievements and original progressive traditions of the peoples of the USSR. [paragraph continues]

It is important that a healthy interest in everything of value which exists in every national culture does not degenerate into attempts to shut oneself off from the objective process of the interaction and rapprochement of national cultures. This applies to attitudes to language, monuments of the past, and the interpretation of historical events alike.

The party is loyal to the Leninist principles of nationalities policy. Creatively applying them in the new conditions and displaying infinite attentiveness and principle-mindedness in national relations means promoting the consolidation of our state and the fraternal friendship of all the USSR's peoples.

PRESIDIUM RELIEVES HEALTH MINISTER OF DUTIES

LD291420 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Sergey Petrovich Burenkov from his duties as USSR health minister in connection with his retirement on pension due to his state of health.

TEREKH APPOINTED NEW TRADE MINISTER

LD271249 Moscow TASS in English 1244 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 27 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has appointed Kondrat Terekh USSR minister of trade.

The Presidium relieved Grigoriy Vashchenko of his duties as the USSR minister of trade in connection with retirement on pension.

Kondrat Terekh was born in 1935.

He was chairman of the board of the Byelorussian Consumer Cooperatives' Society since 1977 and deputy chairman of the Byelorussian Council of Ministers since 1984.

Kondrat Terekh is member of the Central Committee of the Byelorussian Communist Party and deputy of the Supreme Soviet of Byelorussia.

DEPUTY JUSTICE MINISTER DIES 'SUDDENLY'

PM251454 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 6

[Obituary of Aleksey Alekseyevich Kholyavchenko]

[Excerpts] USSR Deputy Minister of Justice Aleksey Alekseyevich Kholyavchenko died suddenly 20 December 1985.

A.A. Kholyavchenko was born to a worker's family 8 March 1919 in the city of Ochakov in Nikolayev Oblast. [passage omitted]

[Signed] N.V. Talyzin, A.K. Antonov, V.M. Kamentsev, A.I. Lukyanov, N.I. Savinkin, M.S. Smirtyukov, B.V. Kravtsov, A.M. Rekunkov, V.I. Terebilov, A.V. Vlasov, V.A. Abolentsev, Ye.V. Anisimov, A.S. Pavlov, R.V. Zhukova, I.S. Samoshchenko, N.A. Osetrov, M.P. Vyshinskiy, A.Ya. Sukharev, V.N. Zhbankov, P.G. Mishunin, P.I. Sabayev.

KOMSOMOL SECRETARY INTERVIEWED ON RULES CHANGES

LD242230 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Tomorrow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA will publish the draft Rules of the All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League with proposed changes. Our correspondent has interviewed the first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, Viktor Mironenko.

[Begin recording] [Mironenko] The changes which are taking place after the 27th CPSU Congress in the life of our society have naturally been reflected in young people's consciousness, their mood and their behavior. One can say that all the experience of our meetings in Komsomol organizations, report-back and election meetings speaks of the fact that young people are for restructuring, young people are for acceleration, young people are for the further democratization of society, for openness, and in such a situation the authority of the Komsomol directly depends on the extent to which it will be able to give space in its ranks for the manifestation of initiative, creativity, independent action by young people. Komsomolites and Komsomol organizations. Among the reasons which have required the introduction of changes in the Rules there is a certain contradiction between the profoundly democratic nature of our Youth League and the at times bureaucratic methods of managing this league and guiding its life on the part of Komsomol bodies, between young people's inclination for everything that is new, young people's dynamism and at times ossified forms and methods of working, between young people's urge to demonstrate their intiative and the formalism in the organization of its work.

[Unidentified correspondent] What is the main point of the changes which are being introduced in the Komsomol Rules?

[Mironenko] I dare say that the most characteristic feature of this new draft is the all-round increase and expansion of the rights of primary Komsomol organizations. These changes also touch on issues of the mutual relations between primary Komsomol organizations and leading Komsomol bodies, the rights of Komsomol member in his Komsomol organization, and many other, in our opinion, vitally important issues of the activity of the Youth League. The preparation of the new draft Rules was preceded by a great deal of work. Of course, first of all, we once again studied very profoundly the party Congress materials, the CPSU program and Rules. The Komsomol Central Committee received tens of thousands of letters with various and at times opposed and mutually exclusive proposals from Komsomolites and Komsomol veterans, and simply from people who are not indifferent to the fate of the Youth League.

We had to do a great deal of work to generalize all this and to try to take everything that was the most interesting and valuable, what in our opinion was essential for inclusion in the Rules: The main issues of the life and activity of our Youth League and its role in the acceleration of the country's social and economic development, its role in the education of young people. In effect we have entered the concluding phase of the preparation for the 20th Komsomol Congress. Oblast report-back and election Komsomol conferences are beginning. Very soon there will be the congresses of union republic Komsomols, and now we feel that the presence of such document, the draft of the new edition of the Komsomol Rules will make it possible to make the discussions at these conferences more specific and constructive, and more to the point, even, but by means less sharp. [end recording]

SAKHAROVS MEET WITH JOURNALISTS IN MOSCOW

AU261452 Paris AFP in English 1446 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, Dec 26 (AFP) -- Dissident Soviet physicist Andrey Sakharov is in poor health and could need a heart pacemaker, according to his wife, Yelena Bonner.

"Andrey Dmitrievitch needs a serious check-up and medical care and perhaps a heart pacemaker, although I cannot be certain as I am not a cardiologist," said Mrs. Bonner, a trained pediatrician, during a meeting late Thursday with Western journalists.

Mr. Sakharov returned to Moscow with his wife on Tuesday after Soviet authorities ended their internal exile in the city of Gorkiy.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner told the journalists that he had refused last year to continue receiving medical treatment at Gorkiy after his wife told him that the KGB was secretly filming his medical visits. "I feel better now that I am not being treated," he said.

The physicist also said he wanted to go to the United States, where his wife's children live. "I would like to visit the United States, but as for living there, that is a more complex question," he said, adding that he had never been abroad.

He said Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's decision to let him return to Moscow after seven years in Gorkiy highlighted the "huge pressure" put on the Kremlin by Western opinion to end his internal exile.

Mr. Sakharov also repeated his opposition to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. His outspoken criticism of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1980 led to his exile in Gorkiy.

"To end the suffering of the Afghan people, Soviet troops must be withdrawn and international guarantees obtained, perhaps with U.N. aid, so that the withdrawal is not followed by bloodletting," he said. "It is also necessary to establish a political dialogue with the resistance forces," he said.

Mr. Sakharov refused to give an overall assessment of Mr. Gorbachev's policies. "But I can say that the current policy of openness, on conditions that it is continued and strengthened, is a sign of the normal development of Soviet society," he declared.

He called for the release of all the exiled members of the Moscow Helsinki Accord Monitoring Group.

He also highlighted the cases of Anatoliy Koryagin, a 48-year-old psychiatrist sentenced to a prison camp and internal exile for criticising the use of psychiatry for political ends, and that of Jewish mathemetician Yuriy Shikhanovitch, 53, who was sentenced to jail and internal exile for editing an underground dissident paper.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL VIEWS CURRENT ECONOMIC TASKS

PM221541 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Time for Work"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] There are still many instances of poor labor and product quality and a disdainful attitude toward work. Take goods for the people as an example. Buyers' demands for good products are still not being met. This applies in particular to complex household appliances. According to USSR Central Statistical Administration data, one in two color television sets, one in three radio-tape recorders, one in four tape recorders, and one in eight automatic washing machines are substandard.

One of the reasons for this is the uneven pace of work, the rush production at the end of every month, and of December in particular. For example, because the bulk of the plan was shifted to the end of the year, the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry will have to increase the average daily production of cultural and consumer goods in December by 22 percent, the USSR Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry will have to increase it by 47 percent, and the USSR Ministry of the Radio Industry must double it. Can high labor and product quality be guaranteed under such circumstances? The introduction of state acceptance of output in many major associations and enterprises must create a reliable barrier to shoddy workmanship. There is no time to be lost here, either. The more thorough the preparations for state acceptance are, the greater its effect will be.

At present thousands of enterprises and entire sectors, while solving this year's current tasks, are simultaneously preparing for the transition to complete financial autonomy and self-financing as of 1 January 1987. The main rule will be: Consume whatever you have earned, after settling your debts to the state beforehand. Any profits belong to the enterprise's entire collective and to every person according to his specific contribution.

The transition to genuine financial autonomy makes new demands on economic work at all levels of production management. It is necessary to ensure the unconditional fulfillment everywhere of plan targets in terms of financial indicators, and every enterprise must learn to engage in economic activity without making losses. There are still many problems here. After all, last year 13 percent of all industrial enterprises operated at a loss. Their upkeep is a direct drain on national income and inflicts economic damage on the state.

Profits increase only when output prime costs and all production expenses are reduced. This is what in many respects characterizes the transition to intensive methods of economic management. But how is it possible to talk about transition at, for example, the Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers when one in four enterprises in the sector has exceeded this year's planned output prime cost, to the total tune of some R80 million. Just look at the difference in prime costs per 1,000 bricks at plants under the USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry: R33.1 at Rostov's No 2 Plant, about R80 at the Ruzayevskiy Plant, and in excess of R135 at the Kansk plant. These differences result from poor technical standards, shortcomings in the organization of labor and production, and downright disregard for savings in worktime.

The end of the current year and the start of the new year are the most responsible period of work for all sectors of the national economy. It gets colder day by day and there is a growing demand for all types of energy and fuel. The responsibility of working people in the fuel and energy complex is also growing. [paragraph continues]

This year they have increased the extraction of natural gas, coal, and oil and the generation of electricity. But demands are growing, and in order to satisfy them it is necessary not only to boost production but also to make the largest possible savings in all types of fuel and energy resources.

The number of alerts from local level about disruptions in material and technical supplies has increased on the eve of the 5-year plan's second year. Central and local organs of the USSR Gossnab must show greater responsibility for their work. Steadily reducing the volume of paperwork, they must be timelier in taking measures to deal with every disruption in supplies and must promptly complete their work on clarifying economic ties for the new year and providing everything that production units need.

The next year in the 5-year plan will see the start of practical implementation of party, government, and AUCCTU resolutions on the improvement of the wages system in the production sphere. These measures are part and parcel of the work on introducing the new economic management mechanism. From now on, wage increases will be directly dependent on the improvement of labor collectives' economic activity and will be implemented via funds they have earned. Every collective member must realize: In order to receive more, it is necessary to work better and save worktime and material resources.

Time for constructive work -- this is the slogan of the day. Party organizations and all Communists are called upon to ensure high standards of organization and the strictest discipline and responsibility within their collectives, and must ensure that each workday is in step with the acceleration and becomes a worthwhile step in the implementation of our 5-year plan.

REACTORS START UP AT ZAPOROZHYE, KALININ AES'S

PM231542 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 December 1986 First Edition front-pages two reports under the general heading "Million Kilowatt Unit Is Working." The first, from nonstaff correspondent I. Sergeyeva in Energodar, Zaporozhye Oblast, states:

"The power startup of the third power unit with a capacity of a million kilowatts has taken place at the Zaporozhye AES. It is now bearing a load of 250,000 kilowatts. The heart of the power unit, the nuclear reactor, is operating at the minimum controllable level of capacity. It reached these parameters during Yu. Cherepanov's shift. The reliability of radiation protection has been checked repeatedly. And the total safety of the nuclear installation for operating personnel and the environment is again being confirmed."

The second report, from nonstaff correspondent A. Yegorov in Kalinin, states:

"The second unit at the Kalinin AES has joined the country's integrated power system. The construction of the latest million-kilowatt unit at the Upper Volga nuclear giant has been completed."

BRIEFS

NORTHWEST FLEET TRANSFERRED -- With the end of the navigation season, part of the Northwest River Fleet has been transferred to the Baltic, North, Black, and Mediterranean Seas. There, it is hoped to carry around 300,000 metric tons of above-plan cargo by the end of the year. The fleet has gone over to self-financing. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 22 Dec 86 LD]

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES 1986 AGRICULTURAL RESULTS

LD260729 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 26 TASS -- "This year the Soviet Union has garnered in a record crop of durum wheats. The population has been well provided with bread grain," Gennadiy Romanenko, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Agri-Industrial Complex, told the newspaper "NEDELYA".

A total of 210 million tonnes of grain have been harvested or nearly 30 million tonnes more than the annual average for the previous five-year plan period (1981-1985). But the targets set by the food programme for this year, have not been reached. The country needs to get 250-255 million tonnes to set off losses of climatically difficult years, noted Gennadiy Romanenko.

The USSR reaped more high-quality rye, rice and some other crops. However, the planned quantity of oats was not garnered.

The country produced more potatoes, vegetables, sunflower and soy-beans than last year. The quality of fruit and grapes improved considerably. The range of grapes changed in favour of table varieties.

"Cattle breeders started wintering with greater stocks of fodder," noted Gennadiy Romanenko. Production of vegetative fodder albumen increased by one million tonnes. It is expected that 1.6 million tones of meat, 3.6 million tonnes of milk and 3,000 million eggs will be procured over and above the plan.

Higher standards of farming are a distinguishing feature of the year. Introduction of scientifically substantiated systems, expansion of clean fallow areas and application of intensive technology have favourably influenced gross crop yields.

Measures which were taken by the state in the recent past and which ensure high personal interest of agricultural workers in the results of their labour, even now have a great impact on the growth in efficiency of social production.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 18-24 DEC NOTED

LD250024 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 18-24 December. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

18 December -- No fileworthy items monitored.
19 December

Rural Uzbekistan machine operators are concerned with the forthcoming sowing season in these winter days. Plowing of fallow land is in full swing in the republic on the areas given over to the main crop, cotton. Farmers of Namangan and Tashkent Oblasts have coped with this work earlier than the others. Plowing is being carried out everywhere by two-tier plows, with simultaneous application of organic material to the soil. At the same time, adds our correspondent, unforgiveable slowness is being displayed by farms of the Karakalpak Autonomous Republic and Khorezem Oblast. The year is running out, but the plan for plowing fallow land has been fulfilled there by only 70 percent. (0500)

24 December -- No fileworthy items monitored.

'COSMOS-1810' SATELLITE LAUNCHED 26 DEC

LD261541 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1528 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 26 Dec (TASS) -- The latest artificial earth satellite, "Cosmos-1810," was launched in the USSR today. It is intended for continuing space research. The satellite has been put into orbit with the parameters:

Initial period of revolution: 89.1 minutes;

Maximum distance from the earth's surface: 302 kilometers; minimum distance from the earth's surface 189 km;

Orbital inclination: 65 degrees.

The apparatus is working normally.

'MOLNIYA-1' COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE LAUNCHED

LD290813 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0750 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 29 December (TASS) -- The launch of a routine communications satellite, "Molniya-1," took place in the Soviet Union on 26 December 1986 [date as received]. It is intended to ensure the operation of the long-distance telephone and telegraphic radio communications system and also the broadcasting of USSR Central Television programs to points of the "Orbita" network.

The satellite has been placed in a high-elliptical orbit with an apogee of 39,075 kilometers in the northern hemisphere and a perigee of 484 kilometers in the southern hemisphere. The period of rotation of the satellite is 11 hours 41 minutes; the inclination of the orbit is 63 degrees.

BULGARIAN PILOTS TO START TRAINING FOR FLIGHT

LD261550 Moscow TASS in English 1409 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 26 TASS -- Two Bulgarian pilots are expected at Star City near Moscow early in January to start training for a joint Soviet-Bulgarian orbital flight planned for 1988, said Aleksey Leonov, deputy head of the Yuriy Gagarin Cosmonaut training centre.

An expanded programme of joint research in the interests of the Soviet and Bulgarian national economies is planned during the international expedition on board the Soviet orbital station MIR within the framework of Intercosmos.

ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION ESTABLISHES AIRSTRIP

LD241800 Moscow TASS in English 1419 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Leningrad December 24 TASS -- The 32nd Soviet antarctic expendition set up a 45-kilometer-long air bridge between the sea of cosmonauts and Molodezhnaya station in Enderby Land, the expedition managers reported today.

The ice cover prevented the Soviet diesel-electric ship Vasiliy Fedoseyev from going closer to the steep shore of Enderby Land, the site of the "Capital" of the Soviet research stations in Antarctica. After a detailed aerial survey the ship moored to a so-called tabular iceberg, a huge floating island six kilometers long. Its surface is rather flat which made it possible to build an airstrip.

First flights to the continent have already been made. They demonstrated that the makeshift airstop is quite reliable. Planes began flying expedition members and supplies to Molodezhnaya. The flagship of the Antarctic flotilla, the Mikhail Somov, is expected to arrive in the area shortly and start unloading.

BRIEFS

GLACIER RESEARCH -- Tashkent, 23 Dec (TASS) -- Winter station workers at a glaciology station on the Abramov glacier in the Pamir-Alay mountains have watched the central television program in color today. The scientists have marked the 20th anniversary of work on the glacier with the commissioning of a relay station capable of receiving a picture from space. Over these years over 120 pieces of scientific work on many problems relating to glaciology, hydrology, meteorology, and the economic mastering of mountains, have been prepared on the basis of the observations carried out here. The Abramov glacier is a kind of multi-branched "scientific combine." The station workers research the interconnection between glaciation and the climate. They were the first to test many methods and instruments that now serve science. So-called background monitoring -- the extracting of unique data about atmosphere pollution -- was set up here. The deep drilling of the ice made it possible to organize "historical monitoring" as well: judging the pollution of the air in the past, in order to build forescasts of the future. Scientists from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the United States, Japan, Canada, and Sweden, have carried out a number of pieces of research on the glacier. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0755 GMT 23 Dec 86 LD]

ROBOT TEST CENTER OPENS -- A new testing ground has opened at Riga's robot technology center, attached to the Academy of Sciences. It concerns itself principally with para-robot technology -- that is, the equipment that effects contact between the robot and the technological plant. While large enterprises can generally cope with robot application by themselves, the smaller ones can come to the center, examine functioning robots, and obtain all kinds of advice on their use. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 22 Dec 86 LD]

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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U.S. 'MISSED OPPORTUNITIES' IN ARMS HALT VIEWED

LD292039 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 29 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; commentary by political observer Fedor Burlatskiy]

[Text] Hello comrades! 1986 -- what sort of year was it for relations between East and West? For our country this has been a year of the most energetic actions in the struggle for the triumph of the new mentality.

Reykjavik was the culmination of this process. Thanks to the boldness and innovation of the Soviet leadership, it was possible, as never before, to bring the positions of the USSR and the United States on the fundamental problems of limiting the arms race closer together. The wave of positive changes coming from Moscow has reached such a height that the attempts by Western countries after Reykjavik to roll it back have failed to nullify its results for the future.

Of no less significance, although for the moment, perhaps, not quite so much noticed abroad, are the efforts of the USSR to implement and upturn to a new level of relations between East and West in the economic and humanitarian spheres. This opens up the road to a better use by all countries of the achievements of the contemporary technological revolution and of the advantages of the international division of labor.

For the United States 1986 has been, it can be said, a year of missed opportunities. This is beginning to be understood more and more even in Washington; such is the main impression to come out of my recent conversation in the United States with representatives of the White House, the State Department, and Congress. Yes, they are looking back more and more often to Reykjavik, where the chance of a lifetime was missed because of the administration's uncompromising position on the SDI program. And unexpectedly, as often happens in politics, this rebounded in the bitter reckoning of Irangate.

What 1987 brings depends on many factors, including unpredictable factors. But one thing is obvious: It is dangerous to lose time. The further things go, the more time will work against the process of disarmament. It will be more and more difficult to try and reach agreement as the United States develops the space arms race and draws other countries into it. Many officials in Washington are currently saying that 1987 can provide a unique chance for an agreement on arms limitations. This is the only way, they contend, for the administration to achieve a major success in the final period of its stay in the White House, and at the same time deflect public opinion in the country from Irangate. Otherwise, effective talks will become possible no earlier than 1990, because the new president will need at least 2 years to enlist the support of Congress and draw up his policies in the world arena.

Regardless of these consideration, it remains an open question as to whether President Reagan will want or be able to embark on the necessary compromises to achieve agreement. In other words, the struggle goes on. The connections of these times become closer and closer, and deeper and deeper. The new mentality is becoming a more and more effective factor in the peoples' movement against the nuclear threat, for a civilized world and universal prosperity.

PRAVDA HIGHLIGHTS YEAR'S DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES

PM291631 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 December 1986 First Edition devotes all of its page 4 to a feature entitled "For a Nuclear-Free World, for Mankind's Survival. A Year of Historic Initiatives."

In an 900-word article entitled "An Irreversible Process," PRAVDA political Observer Yuriy Zhukov sees the 15 January 1986 announcement of the Soviet disarmament program by Gorbachev as "a most important contribution to the International Peace Year" and the start of "the great and truly irreversible process of the struggle for the creation of a nuclear-free world."

Having traced the progress of the "purposeful offensive" through the year, Zhukov concludes that "the USSR firmly holds the initiative in its hands, and growing numbers of people are becoming convinced that the problem of ensuring universal security can, and therefore must be resolved on the firm basis of the realistic and constructive ideas put forward by our leadership on 15 January 1986 and elaborated by the 27th CPSU Congress.

"Sooner or later, people in Washington must understand this!"

Writing about the Reykjavik meeting in a 700-word article under the headline "Ascent to the Summit," T. Kolesnichenko perceives it as having "marked a sharp turnabout in the movement toward a nuclear-free world and the liquidation of the arsenal of strategic offensive weapons," and says that "even bourgeois mass news media admit that it was only the daring, originality, and creative quest, rejecting a hackneyed approach toward talks, that were demonstrated by the Soviet side in Reykjavik which brought the USSR and the United States to the brink of making historic decisions on an unprecedented scale."

He goes on to criticize the U.S. Administration's approach to the talks, saying that it was "unable, or rather unwilling, to fully meet the Soviet proposals." Kolesnichenko concludes that the goal of "ridding the planet of the catastrophe that threatens it is still valid today" and that "the ascent to the summit of Reykjavik continues."

V. Shurygin, in a 700-word article entitled "New Thinking in Action," concentrates on Gorbachev's visit to India and the Delhi declaration signed during the visit. In his view, the role and importance of the results of the Soviet-Indian meeting "will grow not only because the common stance of the mightiest socialist state and the largest nonaligned country on fundamental problems of our time was expressed in Delhi, but primarily because it was there that principles and ideas laying the foundations of international relations in the future were formulated."

In another 700-word article, entitled "The Moratorium -- A Good Example by the USSR," N. Kurdyumov outlines the importance of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests, and sees the latest Soviet Government statement on the moratorium as offering the U.S. Administration "one more chance to take the path of sensible and responsible solutions."

A 450-word article by I. Melnikov, entitled "In All Continents," sums up the development of the "struggle for peace, for mankind's nuclear-free future," while a 450-word article by Hungarian publicist Istvan Zalai, under the headline "Strength Through Unity," praises the socialist community's actions in support of the Soviet initiatives.

The feature is completed by 400 words of excerpts from four readers' letters in praise of the Soviet initiatives, and a 600-word "Who Is For, Who Is Against" selection of 11 quotations on the subject of nuclear disarmament, including statements by Senator E. Kennedy, Secretary of Defense C. Weinberger, Senator G. Hart, and Vice President G. Bush.

NEW U.S. RADARS WOULD BE 'BREACH' OF ABM TREATY

LD281109 Moscow TASS in English 1103 GMT 28 Dec 86

["U.S. Moving Towards Violating ABM Treaty" -- TASS headline]

[Text] New York December 28 TASS -- The Reagan administration is moving towards violating the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of antiballistic missile systems.

THE NEW YORK TIMES quoted officials today as saying the United States was going to implement plans to build two new, large radars in Greenland and Britain. It also cited arms control experts as saying that would be a breach of the ABM treaty because it did not allow the United States to build new radars.

'DELHI SIX' URGE RESUMPTION OF ARMS TALKS

LD292152 Moscow TASS in English 2017 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] New Delhi December 29 TASS -- The leaders of Argentina, India, Mexico, Greece, Tanzania and Sweden made an appeal to the Soviet Union and the United States to take practical steps toward the elimination of nuclear arms and non-emplacement of armaments in outer space. Their joint statement circulated simultaneously in the six countries today says, specifically, that in the last days of the outgoing year 1986 they urge the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States for an early resumption next year of all-embracing talks with a view to preventing an arms race in outer space and terminating it on earth and, in the long run, eliminating nuclear weapons everywhere. This is what the entire international community expects.

The leaders of the Delhi Six urged the United States to review its decision to abandon the SALT-2 treaty. They noted that in the present complex situation it is necessary to follow the spirit and letter of agreements, above all those that have a direct bearing on questions of disarmament and arms limitation.

The leaders of the six countries emphasised that there is not justification for the holding of nuclear weapons tests by any country. The leaders of the six countries urged the United States again to revise it policy in the sphere of nuclear explosions, so as to establish a bilateral moratorium on nuclear testing. The year 1987 offers an opportunity to both countries to reach agreement measures, including substantial cuts in nuclear arsenals. The Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik showed that his can be achieved, the statement says.

GERASIMOV BRIEFS MEDIA AT CONFERENCE 30 DEC

Moratorium Could Continue

LD301207 Moscow TASS in English 1154 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- "Today is the 512th day of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests. Tomorrow will be the 513th day. The count can be continued for generations to come, if the U.S. follows the example of the Soviet Union", Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has stated.

Speaking at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists today, he said that the outgoing year had been proclaimed to be the International Year of Peace by the decision of the U.N. General Assembly. "We proceed from the assumption that peace is the most valuable thing, the benefit of humanity. These are our priorities, and we sought to do our utmost for 1986 to become the beginning of a decade of peace, so that humanity [would] enter the 21st century in conditions of peace, trust and cooperation, as the resolution of the U.N. General Assembly put it".

"Unfortunately, our initiatives have not been supported by the West so far. It is moving in the opposite direction -- in the direction of a further whipping up of the arms race, both in space and on the earth".

"However, the struggle for peace is going on, and we have not become dejected", Gerasimov said.

Raps Anti-Soviet Campaign

LD301158 Moscow TASS in English 1151 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- The head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Information Department at a briefing here today drew attention to another vicious anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan smear campaign set up in the West in time for an anniversary of the movement of a limited Soviet military contingent into Afghanistan.

Gennadiy Gerasimov told the attending Soviet and foreign correspondents that the campaign, involving ranking officials in the United States, Britain and some other countries, had the obvious aim of reducing the problem of settling the situation related to Afghanistan to the issue of Soviet troops alone.

"The sponsors of the hostile campaign," he said, "ignore the practical steps made by the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan towards an early political settlement of the problem."

"They are also hushing up the constructive position taken by the DRA at Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva and attempting to distort the real meaning of the return of six Soviet regiments back home from Afghanistan.

"And they are doing all this just as the contours of a settlement have begun to come out more distinctly."

The situation concerning Afghanistan, the Soviet spokesman said, "calls for a political solution."

The latter, he explained, required "an end to armed aggression and outside interference in the internal affairs of Democratic Afghanistan".

"The governments of the United States and other countries involved in anti-Afghan activities should renounce military and any other aid to the counter-revolutionary gangs and attempts to bring political, economic and psychological pressure to bear on an independent country, namely the DRA," Gerasimov said.

Japanese Gravesite Visits

LD301224 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- Japanese nationals last July, August and September visited the graves of their dear and near ones in Soviet territory, a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry said today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Department, told Soviet and foreign correspondents at a briefing at the ministry's press center that a group of Soviet citizens had also visited Russian graves in the Japanese cities of Nagasaki, Matsuyama and Izumiotsu this month. The graves, he explained, were of Russian seamen who had died during the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05.

The visitors, Gerasimov said, had included representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church who had performed memorial rites. Japanese people, he said, had warmly welcomed the Soviet people who had come to Japan to visit the graves of their compatriots there. The visits, Gerasimov said, had been made possible after the Soviet side, guided by the interests of developing relations with Japan, had made an initiative last summer for an appropriate understanding with the Japanese side on visits to burial places in the territories of the two countries.

PRAVDA REVIEWS INTERNATIONAL EVENTS OF 1986

PM291444 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[Vitaliy Korionov "International Review"]

[Text] Only a few days remain until the New Year begins its march across the planet by the invisible steps of the time zones. The year we are leaving behind was declared International Peace Year by the will of the UN member states. In his New Year address to the Soviet people M.S. Gorbachev said: "We in the Soviet Union want this Peace Year to become a decade of peace and mankind to enter the 21st century in conditions of peace, trust, and cooperation." Throughout the year now drawing to its close, the CPSU and the Soviet state have persistently and purposefully followed this course. Our efforts, supported by the fraternal socialist countries and all the planet's peace-loving forces, were not in vain.

For the Sake of Mankind [subhead]

At the very beginning of the year, on 15 January, the whole planet heard the stirring words of the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in which the concrete program for mankind to enter the 21st century without nuclear weapons was formulated for the first time.

When Lenin's Decree on Peace, the 70th anniversary of which we will be marking next year, was first published, imperialist politicians declared it to be "fantastical" and "utopian." Anti-Sovietists in the West tried to apply the same method to the 15 January statement, but seeing what mighty support the Soviet program for a nuclear-free world received from all sensible people in the world, they were forced to bite their tongues. Even the bourgeois press organs began to acknowledge that it is the boldest, most realistic proposal ever put forward in history.

The struggle for the implementation of the program put forward in the 15 January statement for averting the danger of war became the central avenue of the Soviet Union's foreign policy for the years to come. The whole of 1986 was dominated by the implementation of this principle. We have reason to say: We did not work or struggle in vain.

Of course, the situation on the planet remains alarming and explosive. Nonetheless, we can now look at the situation in the world with greater optimism than at the beginning of 1986. The gulf between the adventurist circles of American imperialism and the rest of mankind is widening.

To bid farewell resolutely and irrevocably to a way of thinking and acting which was based, for centuries, on the acceptability of wars, to raise political thinking to a level which meets the demands of the nuclear missile age -- that is what the 27th CPSU Congress called on the states and people to do. This realistic formulation of the question is persistently forging a path in the political life of the modern world.

The process begun in Geneva could not be broken off. Moreover, in the light of Reykjavik the people saw for themselves: There is a real opportunity to move toward fundamentally new relations between states, and above all to deliver ourselves from nuclear catastrophe. But it is this which the military-industrial complex, which has the White House and the entire U.S. Administration firmly in its clutches, seeks to prevent. The finale of the Reykjavik meeting showed that the "Star Wars" program is still an instrument of obstruction in the hands of the Washington ruling clique.

But this outcome of the talks did not discourage the planet's peace-loving forces. On the contrary, it only strengthened the determination of peace-loving states and peoples to fight to thwart the nuclear militarists' plans.

The CPSU and the Soviet state pose the question bluntly: In present-day conditions the time factor is becoming truly critical. In order to bar the path of the nuclear tornado, constructive actions are needed, and not some time in the future, but this very day.

One such practical action was the Soviet moratorium on nuclear weapon tests. Silence has reigned at the Soviet nuclear testing ranges for more than 500 days. This silence is more eloquent than the explosions which thunder out at the American ranges.

Some of the bourgeois propaganda media are trying to interpret the Soviet Government statement published the other day in this way: "The Soviet moratorium has ended." Not true! The USSR has stated that it will resume tests only after the first nuclear explosion in the United States in the new year. This means that the Soviet moratorium has in effect been extended for another period, the fifth. Thus Washington is being given yet another chance to take the opportunity which exists and stop the explosions. The responsibility for the future course of events rests with Washington, and with it alone.

Peace will be neither universal nor lasting unless there is a normalization of the situation in that vast, explosive region, Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Here too the USSR's well-known initiatives are aimed at ensuring that nobody has the right to impose his will on other peoples or pierce the body of Asia with foreign military bases or his own nuclear devices. The declaration on a nuclear-free, nonviolent world signed by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi a month ago, on 27 November 1986, is a major political document of our time.

Breaking the resistance of imperialist reaction, the new way of political thinking -- nuclear and space age thinking -- is entering the practice of international relations. The fraternal socialist countries and communist and workers' parties are in the front ranks of this battle. The "Delhi Six" make a major contribution to the cause of normalizing the world situation. The voice of the participants in the Eighth Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Nonaligned Countries in Harare rang out authoritatively in 1986. This year was also marked by another forum which ended successfully, the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

The American "No" [subhead]

Recent events have exposed with new force the true nature of the Washington administration's foreign policy course. The mask of demagogic rhetoric about the White House's "love of peace" has disintegrated, and the world can clearly see the real state of affairs. THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, for instance, notes: American foreign policy "needs a salvage operation," while in the opinion of THE BULLETIN OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS, an influential journal in U.S. scientific circles, "the Reagan administration has begun a frontal assault on the entire arms control process."

The year 1986 was indeed a year of obstruction by Washington to any step aimed at nuclear disarmament, wherever such calls came from. "No" -- that is the only thing the peoples of the world hear from the White House. The year began with stubborn efforts by the extreme right in the United States to extinguish the "spirit of Geneva" and ended with the wrecking of the accords all but reached in Reykjavik, which American Senator C. Pell called a "black day for mankind." The year's finale was the notorious "Irangate," which crystallized not only the cynicism and hypocrisy of the U.S. ruling elite, but also its desire to use any opportunity to whip up the existing "hot spots" on the planet or create new seats of military conflict.

There is justification for the fears of those circles in Latin America and in the United States itself which warn: The Washington administration, bogged down in the quagmire of the current scandal, could throw itself into seeking a way out in new adventures, in particular in the Nicaragua region. Washington is making feverish efforts to prevent a political solution to the Afghan problem. The scale of U.S. support for the cutthroats in Angola, as well as for the Pol Pot renegades in Cambodia, is widening.

All these are links in a single policy based on the senseless attempt to reverse the course of history. Poisoned by ideas of American "license," Washington politicians still entertain illusions that they will be able to carry out the crazy idea of social revanche on a worldwide scale, although the obvious result of this has been described by the American student of international problems L. Wieseltier as "the great American death throes of power." His appeal to "stop this sanctimonious blather about American purity" is perhaps timely. Indeed, the administration, while sanctimoniously declaring its loyalty to Reykjavik, marked the last days of this year with a sharp new buildup in militarist preparations.

The other side of the coin is the U.S. government's obstructionist position toward any UN resolution aimed at strengthening peace and international security. The voting statistics at the 41st UN General Assembly Session are characteristic. A vast and, in some cases, overwhelming majority of states voted at the session in favor of the adoption of resolutions calling for arms limitation and disarmament.

The unvarying American "no" struck a blow to the peoples' hopes. Only the United States voted against the resolution on the need for fruitful political dialogue with a view to improving the international situation. A total of 154 states voted for the resolution on preventing an arms race in outer space, and only the United States abstained. Only the American representative voted against the resolution on turning the South Atlantic into a zone of peace and cooperation and against the resolution on banning the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons. In the vote on such an important question of the present day as the creation of a comprehensive system of international peace and security, only the United States and France voted against.

Summing up the political results of the year, the American magazine NATION writes: "The Reagan administration's foreign policy has demonstrated its complete bankruptcy." There is probably nothing to add to this conclusion.

The Planet Demands [subhead]

International Peace Year showed that the peoples are not only concerned about the development of international events, but filled with determination to turn these events in the direction of achieving a nuclear-free world. The global antinuclear process has entered a new phase.

Both the governments of a growing number of countries and the people's public movements are pooling their efforts to erect barriers in the path of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. At the end of the year yet another nuclear-free zone was added to those which already exist in the Antarctic and Latin America -- in the southern part of the Pacific covering the vast expanses of that region.

The DPRK proposes that the Korean peninsula be declared a zone free from nuclear weapons. The movement for the implementation of the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe is gathering momentum, and the movement to create a nucler-free zone in the Balkans is hurrying to meet it. Yet another initiative has been put forward, as if to build a bridge between those ideas -- that of creating along the borders between the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries a corridor free from nuclear weapons, 150 km wide on each side, making a total of 300 km. As is known, this idea originates from the biggest parties in two states of different systems and political orientations — the SED from the GDR and the SPD [Social Demoratic Party of Germany] from the FRG. This is further evidence of the multiplying shoots of the new political thinking in the modern world.

The movement to declare nuclear-free cities, prefectures, and settlements is acquiring considerable scope in the United States, Japan, Canada, Britain, and other countries. In Japan, for instance, in the fall of this year more than 1,000 local organs of power, covering territory inhabited by more than one-half of the country's population, had adopted documents proclaiming the renunciation of nuclear weapons and calling for firm compliance with the three nuclear-free principles. In the United States more than 120 zones have declared themselves free from nuclear weapons, among them several major cities.

This year has seen a good "crop" of militant actions by the masses against the threat of nuclear war. Remember the "Great Peace March," in which some 1,000 American patriots marched 3,800 miles through the territory of 15 states of the country over 280 days, under the slogan "Get Rid of Nuclear Weapons!" Remember the 750,000-strong demonstration on the streets of Madrid, protesting Spain's participation in NATO. Remember the "Peace Caravan" on the roads of Greece and the rallies and marches involving many thousands of peace campaigners in Rome, Vancouver, Helsinki, Hasselbach....

The American side's position in Reykjavik made it particularly obvious to sensible people in the world that the path to real arms control is barred by the "Star Wars" program. Hence the intensifying desire, among scientists in various countries, not to take part in developing [razrabotki] space strike arms within the framework of SDI. By this fall more than 7,000 American scientists had signed a pledge never to participate directly or indirectly in work or research connected with the program. This makes a total of 57 percent of all scientific workers at the leading U.S. universities and institutes, including 15 Nobel Price winners in physics and chemistry. In Japan more than 70 percent of members of the physics society have declared that they will turn down a proposal to take part in research under the SDI program, while some 10,000 scientists have signed a protest statement against Japan's involvement in the program. All this is a sign of the times.

Unfortunately, International Peace Year was not marked by true peace in every corner of the world. International tension has not become less acute. The arms race, which is exhausting the people, is even intensifying. The senseless war between Iran and Iraq continues. The heat of military conflicts can be felt from other "hot spots." All the same, Peace Year is not fading into oblivion. The forces of peace have done worthy work on its noble soil. They enter 1987 with new confidence: A nuclear-free world can be built, mankind can survive, and will survive!

'TOP PRIORITY' DISCUSSES U.S., NATO STRATEGY

LD271429 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 27 Dec 86

[From the "Top Priority" program]

[Excerpts] Hello, I am Pavel Kuznetsov and welcome to Top Priority, a regular panel discussion from the studios of Radio Moscow. Today we have our usual panel, Professors Radomir Bogdanov -- welcome back to our program -- and Sergey Plekhanov of the Moscow-based Institute for United States and Canada Studies. Today is our final discussion on Top Priority and therefore I'd like you...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] Final, you mean, I'm sorry, final for this year.

[Kuznetsov] Yes, that's what I said. Final program for this year and I'd like you to share your feelings about the past year. In my view a major lesson of 1986 is that it has demonstrated the ever-growing concern with the continued accumulation of nuclear weapons. Also this year, in my view again, will go down in the history books because we've tried to shape up our vision of a nonnuclear world and have made certain practical steps in this direction. [Passage omitted in which Kuznetsov recalls Gorbachev's announcement in January of a Soviet plan for a nonnuclear world by 2000 and in Reykjavik the two sides were close to reaching accord on doing away with strategic offensive arms in the next decade; Bogdanov says its not nuclear weapons but a peaceful policy that safeguards peace; Plekhanov says plan for a nonnuclear world by 2000 embraces other modern destructive weaponry.]

There is need to build a political structure with your potential adversary to make war unacceptable, says Plekhanov]

[Kuznetsov] I want to stop you right there because I'm going to play to you a segment of an ABC's News Nightline, anchored by Ted Koppel, and one of the guest speakers is Richard Perle, who is the assistant secretary of defense for international security policy, and Mr Perle is talking about conventional arms and also U.S. strategy, which is indeed NATO strategy, for initiating the use of nuclear arms in Europe. Let's listen to that tape now, and then I'd like you to comment on it.

[Begin recording] [Perle] In the event that we have no other way to repulse a massive Soviet invasion of Western Europe to consider the resort to nuclear weapons [sentence as received]. This doesn't mean that the use of nuclear weapons is inevitable, it doesn't mean that the use of nuclear weapons would be extensive and indeed we believe that the prospect that nuclear weapons might be used is sufficient to deter the Soviet Union from launching even a conventional attack in first (?instance).

[Koppel] Let me comment on it this way. Do you believe that the Soviet Union has superior conventional forces in Europe?

[Perle] I don't think there is any question about that. Soviet conventional forces vastly outnumber those of the NATO alliance in virtually every category.

[Koppel] Therefore, therefore, if the Soviet Union or the Warsaw Pact were to begin an assault against Western Europe coming in from East Germany into West Germany it's really only a matter of time, isn't it? If NATO forces did not use some kind of tactical nuclear weapons it would be only a matter of time if their conventional forces are superior before someone would call up the White House or the, or the Pentagon and say fellows we need help, we got to use it.

[Perle] (?But) we certainly can't rule out the possibility that Soviet conventional superiority could lead to a situation in which we would have to face a very difficult choice, either withdrawing from the continent of Europe or using one or more nuclear weapons in order to halt the Soviet advance. [end recording]

[Plekhanov] Now I think what Mr Perle said was very typical arguments and I'd like one of you two to comment on...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] It's very typical argument and first of all let me state, you know, that I hate even to discuss that idiotic scenario of Soviet Union invading the Western Europe. Let me begin with that. It's really idiotic scenario which has no ground.

[Plekhanov, interrupting] It's rank lunacy.

[Bogdanov] It's lunacy, it's [word indistinct] and you Pavel won't ask myself and Sergey to take part in that lunacy. OK, we respect you very much and we take...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] You have already taken part and you have already commented on what you heard, anyway.

[Bogdanov] Number two, number two. You know Mr Perle looks like, you know, an uncle scathing [as heard] bad children behaving in a very bad way. You know in Russian tales there is such a personality. When you want to calm down your children you tell them: I will call this uncle and he will calm you down, you know.

[Plekhanov] Put you in a bag and carry you away or something.

[Bogdanov] Yes, (?I'll) carry you away and things like that. Mr Perle is just playing this role because I, to be frank with you, I don't see any, any common sense to discuss with him numbers; who is superior, who is not superior. If you are a real fair, you know, observer of the correlation of forces between Soviet Union and -- I mean conventional, we're talking about conventional forces -- you will see that is's a rough balance, we call it rough balance. What (?does it, what does it mean)? It means that in some respect we are a bit stronger than they are; in some respects they are a bit stronger than we are. But on the whole there is a rough parity. Of course you can discuss who is superior, who is not. We are not against that. But why Mr Perle, scaring his own citizens and Europeans, does not mention Soviet proposals, how to deal with that maybe legal, you know, (?worry) about the so-called Soviet superiority. We don't deny that. We say we are ready to sit down around the table and we have made a number of very important proposals how to deal with conventional problems.

[Kuzentsov] Prof Bogdanov, thank you for your comment. It was kind of emotional, but I respect your emotions and feelings about what we've just heard. But perhaps we could outline some areas in conventional weapons, where in the West they keep silent on their own advantages, and significant advantages at that.

[Plekhanov] Well, the one area is antitank weapons for instance. All the scenarios of a possible Soviet attack on Western Europe have to do with massive Soviet...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] Tank assaults.

[Plekhanov] Movements, of tank assaults. Now the numbers of antitank weapons in NATO are really staggering. It's, the, I think it's about 100,000. Now it's estimated that in case they're used in battle at least 90 percent of them would be effective. Now the total number of tanks in the world is much lower than that. So NATO has in Europe more antitank weapons than it needed to eliminate all the tanks in the world. But really, I would like to reaffirm what Dr Bogdanov has been talking about. Discussing war scenarios in Europe lunacy. I wonder if Mr Perle has ever heard of Chernobyl. You know, Europe is filled wih nuclear power stations. Any kind, any kind of serious fighting, conventional fighting, even on the level of second world war, would have such tremendous negative consequences in terms of radiation and what have you...

[Unidentified, interrupting] Starting a war in Europe, no matter what kind, conventional, or nuclear or chemical, is a scenario for the death of civilization in Europe, and maybe with consequences for the other continents as well. Now this is just plain realism; that's why we are proposing not only radical cuts in the number of conventional forces, but also changes in the strategies, such changes in strategies which would make offensive -- the possibility of offensive actions by either side, even impossible theoretically not just in practical sense. Also what we are proposing is have nuclear-free zones in the center of Europe, (?disjunctional) forces, such as moving forces back from, from the lines which divide them and deploying them in such a manner that would make a war (?improbable).

[Kuznetsov] Impossible. Well, I'd like to add a few words about what I've heard from Mr Perle and he, he said nothing about, for example, the number of, strength of, division, combat divisions on the western and eastern side, like, say for example, an American division has more men, or a West German division has more men that a Soviet division, for example, so when they manipulate the number of divisions they just omit this fact. Another thing is that they don't count into the equation the Armed Forces of France and Spain. They never mention the fact, which is a very significant fact in my view, that the population of NATO countries is more than what we have in the Warsaw Treaty countries. And then my final agrument is that -- ah, both of you know about this current doctrine adopted by NATO which is called Air-Land Battle 2000 and it provides for strikes with conventional and nuclear weapons deep behind enemy lines. So my question is how an inferior side can have such war plans? I don't know...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] That's a good question, that's a good question.

[Kuznetsov] I've yet to hear an explanation from Mr Perle or whoever.

[Bogdanov] And we should. If you like, Pavel, we should invite him to come here and to join us, to have a discussion with him around this table. If he hears, if he hears (?now), that's an invitation for him.

[Kuznetsov] OK, we'll include that invitation in our working schedule for 1987, OK. Now, what I'm interested in and I fully agree with those in the West who say that we, what we terribly lack is trust and confidence. How do we build trust and confidence given this disparity of views?

[Bogdanov] You know, I still believe, you know, that this problem of confidence-building will be major problem for the next year as it was for this.

[Plekhanov, interrupting] Our moratorium, was it the...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] That's what, I was just about to touch that. You know, what we should do. That's my, you know, my opinion, what we should do. It's a tremendous task to build the confidence but we must and we must put into that small bricks, bigger bricks and maybe grand bricks, you know. We have started. Our side have started, has started that process of building trust: Our nuclear disarmament plan. We don't insist on the other side accept it immediately. We give you time to think it over, to criticize it, to have you own views but it's bricks, bricks of trust, you know. Nonnuclear world is the world of trust. Number two: We stopped testing nuclear weapons. It's another brick into that big mountain of trust, you know.

[Kuznetsov] In fact, in fact we are going to prolong it actually beyond the expiration date of 31 December. We're waiting for the first American blast in 1987 before we resume. In other words it's another prolongation of our moratorium, the fifth already. [passage omitted: Plekhanov refers to the successful completion of the Stockholm conference this year; Bogdanov cites joint efforts against terrorism as part of the package. The USSR has genuine desire to build mutual trust and confidence, a major task for 1987, says Bogdanov. Plekhanov hopes wisdom will prevail in 1987 and Bogdanov says let common sense prevail in dealing with all problems.]

[Kuznetsov] Thank you very much. Our time is up. I'm Pavel Kuznetsov signing off. Goodbye till next time on Top Priority a week from now on the same wavelength, and a happy New Year to all of you.

NO EXCHANGE OF TV ADDRESSES TO BE MADE WITH U.S.

LD301137 Moscow TASS in English 1125 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- This year there will be no exchange of television addresses by the leaders of the USSR and of the USA, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's information Department, told a briefing here.

The United States has turned to us with the proposal on an exchange of new year television addresses by the leaders of our countries as was the case last year, he said. An exchange of television addresses is the content of the moment, which these addresses mirror. [sentence as received] To our regret, the departure of the U.S. Administration from the accords reached at Reykjavik, its abandonment of the quantitative limitations under the SALT-2 treaty and the refusal of the USA to join in the Soviet moratorium on nuclear blasts -- all that gives no ground for an optimistic note.

We believe that an exchange of television addresses is a good thing. But why instill in people illusions that everything is in order. Despite the good statements by the U.S. side, including the statement of the kind that in 1986 we have allegedly drawn closer on many issues, we, nevertheless, see no reason for an optimistic tone which will, naturally, come about if such an exchange of television addresses takes place.

We say: Let us again make efforts to remedy the situation so that we should have ground for optimism, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry said.

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES REAGAN RADIO ADDRESS

LD291807 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 29 Dec 86

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Sergey Rogulskiy; Boris Andrianov commentary]

[Text] [Rogulskiy] Western press agencies are reporting President Reagan's latest radio speech, paying particular attention to the point at which the master of the White House was obliged to touch on Irangate, the great political scandal which continues to stir the United States in connection with the secret U.S. arms deliveries to Iran. Over to commentator Boris Andrianov:

[Andrianov] Speaking on the radio, the head of the Washington Administration talked of Irangate in frankly subdued tones. According to UPI, President Reagan called the hitherto uprescedented scandal the controversy over Iran which in his own words, was distasteful to all Americans. Behind deliberately softened formulas like these the attempt by the chief of the White House to present the Iran affair as no more than a vexing accident is to be clearly felt. The administration, has, supposedly, slandered or slopped up, and certain individuals have exploited this to twist the administraton around their little fingers.

Such stories, however, collapse when they come into contact with the facts, and in particular with those linked to the acute exacerbation of the situaton in Chad, where events are taking a threatening turn.

In what it says, official Washington is an advocate of peace and stability in this African country, which has already been racked by internecine struggles for a protracted period. In what it does, however, the United States along with the other Western powers prefers to pour oil on the fire. A report has appeared in the foreign press to the effect that Washington has allocated $15 million to direct military support of the pro-Western Habre regimes in Chad. Large consignments of U.S. weapons are being delivered to the regime. It is, moreover, appropriate to recall that, even in the spring of 1981, it was Chad that became the object of the first large-scale CIA secret operation under the Reagan administration, aimed at overthrowing the Transitional Government of National Unity in that country. Today, too, certain U.S. circles do not hide their intention of setting up a military and political bridgehead in Chad to exert pressure on Libya from the south. It is patently obvious what kind of consequences such action could have: they threaten to cause the conflict in Chad to become a significant source of international tension.

Irangate, like the U.S. intervention in Chad and like many similar actions on the part of Washington, thus emerges as dictated by purposeful calculations. Their object is to destabilize the situation in countries which do not want to submit to U.S. pressure, and which espouse an independent anti-imperialist policy.

Can it really be a question of an annoying accident over Irangate, as President Reagan hinted so transparently in his last speech of the year on U.S. radio? Absolutely not. It is not without reason that the French journal MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE has called the unleashing of wars and of so-called low-intensity conflicts in the peripheral theaters of the Third World the central element in U.S. policy and the cornerstone of their strategy. Those who have created such a policy have no qualms whatever about the choice of means. It is sufficient to recall the invasion of Grenada by the U.S. military, and the aggressive U.S. actions against Libya. Washington combines such outright militaristic actions with military, political and financial support tothe antigovernment gangs in Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Angola, Mozambique and Cambodia; the training of hired killers and saboteurs who are sent to all ends of the earth goes hand in hand with the spreading of provocative lies concocted by the U.S. espionage department. The current Reagan administration long ago took possession of this entire arsenal, relying on a policy of neglobalism.

As for Irangate, it has shown the world's public this disreputable policy in all its unsightliness. That is why the chief of the White House has made this latest attempt to draw a veil over the nature of this scandal. Judging however by foreign media reaction, the attempt has failed.

[Rogulskiy] I will add to this that President Reagan has been obliged to admit that the Iran arms operations were a mistake, and that disagreement on the subject of these deliveries is still rife among his staff. The U.S. press notes that a new wave of dismissals and retirements of highly placed members of the U.S. Administration is expected. THE WASHINGTON POST believes that White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan and CIA Director William Casey will soon be gone. The American journalist points out that the scandal surrounding the secret arms deliveries to Iran and the transfer of the proceeds to the Nicaraguan contras is the greatest political crisis of President Reagan's term of office.

FALIN ATTACKS U.S. POLICIES OF 'HEGEMONY'

AU240926 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 22 Dec 86 p 2

[Commentary by NOVOSTI correspondent Valentin Falin, Moscow: "The New Year, What Choice Will Be Made?"]

[Text] The following statement must be regarded as both an axiom and a constant: Security can only be universal and, as far as the relations between the USSR and the United States are concerned, only bilateral. Genuine equal security will be guaranteed not by as high a level of strategic equilibrium as possible but by the lowest possible level, one in which all systems and kinds of means of mass destruction become unnecessary. Hence strengthening peace and security is no longer a military task.

In the Soviet position in Reykjavik the "philosophy of shaping a secure peace in the nuclear and space age" prevailed. During this meeting the USSR tried to convince the United States of the need to combine word and deed. All went well until President Reagan tried to introduce hedges into the agreements, thinking hard how Washington's policy of strength could be combined with a peace without violence and how an official antinuclear space umbrella, known as SDI, could be stretched over a world free of nuclear weapons. He did this so long until he aroused distrust about his actual intentions because he avoided halting the nuclear weapons tests, even though he spoke out in favor of destroying all nuclear weapons in the coming 10 years.

It is in fact impossible to let the world be just a little bit nuclear. Nor can space be militarized just a little bit, as an experiment and so forth, without hoodwinking the other side at the same time. Such ploys spell nothing good.

As early as after Reykjavik the American leadership revealed why it had allowed the historic chance in the development of civilization to come to nothing: At heart the United States is not willing to place justice above strength, consent to being an equal among equal states, dissociate itself from the concept of neoglobalism and from directing the best interests of the world, or hegemony, or to accept the world community for what it is. Ronald Reagan proclaimed bluntly that his administration would continue the policy of strength and that it would not abandon the concept of "deterrence," which, as transpires from American Government documents, is nothing but a policy of "deliberate and gradual pressure" with the main emphasis resting on the "concentration of military superiority."

Guided by this theory the United States rejects peaceful coexistence and cooperation for the mutual benefit. From the U.S. angle a world without weapons and violence only harbors danger or the specter of danger. One can rest easy with an axe and a thick cudgel under the table. Everything else -- the references to the "insidiousness of the Russians," to alleged violations of treaties by the Soviet Union, all over the globe -- only constitutes a verbal supplement, an expression of annoyance about the fact that whereas U.S. imperialism is stronger than ever the scope for the application of this strength is becoming smaller every year.

How will things go on now? Never before has mankind had such opportunities to improve its life and never before has it been threatened by such dangers as today. There is a choice but how it will turn out depends first and foremost on whether the West can bring its ideas into harmony. This is the key to solving most of the problems that are making the life of the world community difficult today. This is where the answer to the central question of whether or not the chance for genuine disarmament in the interests of all becomes an accomplished fact lies.

HASHISH SEIZED IN KABUL; DUSHMANS IMPLICATED

LD292052 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 29 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As has already been reported, a large haul of drugs has been seized at Kabul Airport.

[Begin video recording by correspondent M. Leshchinskiy, identified by caption] Another cache of drugs was found here yesterday in a hiding place under the roof of this house in the bustling center of Kabul. [video shows exterior of house] It was in the same packaging and bore the same label as that seized by Kabul customs officials. This house was leased by a merchant called (Khadyk Ullo). It has been discovered that he also brought a large haul of contraband into Kabul Airport. [video shows Leshchinskiy in a bare room, the door of which is guarded by two armed men in military uniform; the room contains several large metal trunks which can be seen to contain what looks like almonds; Leshchinskiy then points to another similar trunk, the bottom of which has been cut open and which can be seen to contain parcels in red cellophane wrapping]

Here are the metal trunks; there are 19 of them in all. They were taken to Kabul Airport to be sent via Delhi to London. Here you can see what looks like a load of almonds which the merchants were sending to be sold in Europe, but here is what was discovered by customs. Each trunk had a false bottom. Here, look. And this is where these bars of hashish were hidden away. I think that our viewers who saw the Vremya report on the seizure at the Moscow freight station of drugs in containers belonging to the U.S. firm Specific International will probably notice a lot of similarites with the color of the cellophane in which the hashish was packed and the size of the bars. Even their weight is very similar.

In all, 507 kg of hashish were seized in these 19 iron trunks by Kabul customs, and 17 people are currently being questioned. They are the organizers as well as the perpetrators of these criminal acts.

During the first stages of questioning the alleged merchant, (Khadyk Ullo), said that the drugs were brought into Afghanistan along secret routes from Pakistan from the Peshawar region, where, as is well known, many camps containing Afghan counterrevolutionaries are situated. The area also contains places where narcotic plants are grown and processed. His task in Kabul was to dispatch the cargo via Delhi to London. Furthermore, he stressed especially that he had received orders to dispatch the cargo only on Pan American aircraft.

What, then, are the aims pursued by the dushmans who perpetrate this criminal business and by their protectors who grow narcotics in Pakistan and try to dispatch them to Europe through Afghanistan? Well, of course their prime aim is to grow rich, to make themselves personally rich. Golbuddin Hekmatyar, one of the leaders of the counterrevolution, has lined his pockets with about $15-20 million every year. There are 20 heroin processing centers on Pakistani territory that make up around 85 percent of the total amount of heroin used in Europe.

But in my opinion they also have other aims, political ones. It has already become clear, even during the preliminary investigation, what the Western special services are plotting. They are trying in this way to compromise the government of Democratic Afghanistan. But all these attempts are in vain. [end recording]

INDIA TO BENEFIT FROM OIL, GAS AGREEMENTS

LD201243 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] A long-term program for economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and India in the oil industry field for the period of up to the year 2000 was signed today in New Delhi. A number of contracts and agreements specifying ways to implement the accords achieved in the course of the visit to India by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, were also concluded.

Our correspondent, Boris Levchenko, reports from New Delhi that the documents signed stipulate a considerable broadening of Soviet-Indian cooperation in the field of oil and gas prospecting and extraction. In accordance with the general agreement between Tekhnoexport and the Indian Oil and Gas Commission, an essential broadening of work in oil prospecting at old and already developed deposits and in repairing wells is envisaged which, according to specialists, will make it possible to considerably increase oil extraction in India. A working program was also signed outlining the boundaries of the sites where prospecting and well repair work is to be conducted. Contracts for drilling total R235 million, almost twice the sum previously expended in nearly 30 years of Soviet-Indian cooperation in the field of oil and gas prospecting and extraction.

The Soviet-Indian agreements signed in New Delhi also envisage the continuation of cooperation in training qualified cadres for the Indian oil and gas industry. This field is very important for the country. As is known, India has set itself the task of achieving self-sufficiency in the field of oil prospecting and refining by the end of this century. The Soviet-Indian documents signed in New Delhi are making a considerable contribution to achieving the goals facing India in the field of oil prospecting, extracting, and refining.

Dinkov Signs Agreements

PM251453 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Documents Signed]

[Text] Delhi, 24 Dec -- New potential for further developing the fruitful cooperation between the USSR and India in the sphere of the oil and gas industry is opened up by documents signed in the Indian capital by representatives of the two friendly countries.

The large-scale program that has been mapped out covers the period through the year 2000. It includes the joint conduct of researches in geophysics and geology, the implementation of drilling operations, and the surveying and exploitation of oil and gas deposits in the North Cambay and Cauvey River basins, the Himalayan foothills, and the state of West Bengal.

The program was signed by USSR Minister of the Petroleum Industry V.A. Dinkov and Indian Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas B. (Datt).

PRAVDA EDITORIAL WELCOMES CPV CONGRESS DECISIONS

PM231245 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Renewal Is the Keynote"]

[Text] For our country, the year drawing to a close is the year of the 27th CPSU Congress, which developed the strategy to speed up socioeconomic development and improve the Soviet people's well-being.

The supreme forums of many other socialist community countries' ruling parties were also held this year. It is deeply significant that the decisions they took are consonant with the innovative spirit and directives of the CPSU congress. Despite all the differences -- sometimes very substantial differences -- in the conditions in which the community countries' fraternal parties live and operate, they are inspired by common socialist ideals, are guided by the Marxist-Leninist teaching that is indivisible for them, and cooperate closely with one another on the basis of the principles of socialist internationalism.

The Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Congress, recently concluded in Hanoi, proceeded in a businesslike, constructive atmosphere. The entire course of this congress and the decisions it took are distinguished by a spirit of realism and creativity, critical appraisal of what has been done, and quest for a fresh approach to the tasks of ensuring Socialist Vietnam's continued progress. Vietnamese Communists have every reason to call this forum of theirs a congress of restructuring and renewal.

The CPV has to operate under particularly difficult conditions. Even now the country is feeling the effects of the long period of colonialism, its bloody war for independence, and its no less difficult armed struggle against U.S. imperialist aggression. All these years of defending the motherland, its national unity, and socialist achievements have taken considerable strength. Following the behests of its leader, Ho Chi Minh, a consistent internationalist, the party of Vietnamese Communists has done a vast amount of creative work. Under its leadership, and relying on fraternal aid from the Soviet Union and other socialist community countries, the heroic, industrious Vietnamese people have begun building a new society. The foundations for modern industry are being laid, agricultural production is increasing, the state's defense potential is growing stronger, and science and culture are developing.

It is indicative, however, that, having duly appraised its achievements, the Sixth CPV Congress concentrated mainly on the tasks it still has to resolve. The Political Report and the report on the basic guidelines for social and economic development in 1986-1990 submitted by the CPV Central Committee to the congress, and also the speeches by delegates, devoted the most serious attention to disclosing and rectifying errors permitted in the past and to eliminating the phenomena of stagnation that have prevented the party and the country from making more rapid progress and that have had particularly serious consequences in the socioeconomic sphere. Boldly revealing shortcomings and looking truth in the face, the congress confirmed the CPV's maturity and strength, brought the ranks of Vietnamese Communists even closer, and strengthened the authority of both party and people. Approving the content, principles, and conclusions of the CPV Central Committee reports, the congress resolved that they must serve as guidelines when drawing up the 1986-1990 5-year plan for the country's socioeconomic development.

The CPV combines continuity with renewal in its activity. Many new people capable of formulating and resolving problems in accordance with the demands of the times were elected to leading party organs at the congress.

Nguyen Van Linh was elected general secretary of the CPV Central Committee. At the same time, the congress expressed its gratitude to party veterans who have made their own valuable contribution to building Socialist Vietnam.

The Sixth CPV Congress devoted a great deal of attention to SRV foreign policy issues, describing the strengthening of its fraternal ties with the Soviet Union as the cornerstone of this policy. Soviet-Vietnamese relations will continue to develop on the firm basis of the principles of socialist internationalism, which are clearly embodied in the treaty of friendship and cooperation between our countries. The fact that Soviet people feel deep satisfaction in the knowledge that our friendship today serves as a clear example of socialist internationalism in action came across convincingly at a meeting with activists from the Vietnamese-Soviet Friendship Society in Hanoi.

The congress expressed deep gratitude for the fraternal aid given to Vietnam by the Soviet Union and other socialist community states. It also voiced profound satisfaction with the fact that the fraternal countries' leaders have unanimously recognized the need to draw up a program to improve the effectiveness of CEMA countries' cooperation with and aid to Vietnam, Cuba, and Mongolia, while taking into account the specific features of each of these countries. For its part, Vietnam will strive to help improve the effectiveness of economic and scientific and technical cooperation within the CEMA framework.

The forum in Hanoi firmly stated that Vietnam will continue to strengthen its fraternal ties and fulfill its international duty with regard to its friendly neighbors in Indochina, Laos and Cambodia.

Socialist Vietnam fully supports the peace-loving foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet state, which is aimed at reducing and eliminating by the year 2000 nuclear and other mass destruction weapons, ensuring the nonmilitarization of space, and creating a comprehensive international security system. The proposals put forward by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in Vladivostok, which are aimed at turning the Asia-Pacific region into a zone of peace and security, were highly appraised from the congress rostrum. The congress warmly welcomed the Delhi declaration signed by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi as a document embodying the will and aspirations of all mankind struggling to create a secure, nonviolent world.

The CPV congress proved a convincing demonstration of the internationalist nature of the CPV, which works for the unity and cohesion of the international communist and workers movement, shows indissoluble solidarity with the liberation struggle of oppressed peoples, and contributes to the cause of social progress and the strengthening of peace throughout the world.

In their turn, representatives of communist and worker parties and other progressive organizations and movements who took part in the congress work expressed their solidarity with the CPV as it resolves the tasks facing it. They supported the efforts by Socialist Vietnam -- an active member of the Nonaligned Movement -- to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and good-neighborliness.

The Sixth CPV Congress is an important landmark in Vietnam's sociopolitical life.

SRV ASSEMBLY SUPPORTS SUPREME SOVIET STATEMENT

LD292318 Moscow TASS in English 2301 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi December 29 TASS -- Vietnam wholly supports the message of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the parliaments and peoples of the world of November 19 and declares resolutely for the elimination of nuclear arms, for guaranteeing reliable security to all countries and peoples. This is said in a statement of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam adopted on the final day of the session of the Republic's supreme body of state authority.

The peaceful call of the USSR Supreme Soviet shows the Soviet Union's lofty responsibility for the destiny of humanity, its resolve to be tirelessly waging the struggle for the creation of an all-embracing system of international security, the statement says.

The Vietnamese parliamentarians condemn resolutely the United States striving to military supremacy, to the continuation of the arms race and its spread to space. The blocking by Washington of the arrangement about the possibility of the elimination of nuclear weapons, reached in Reykjavik, the abandonment of the SALT-2 treaty mean gross defiance to the cause of peace and international security, the document says.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS PHILIPPINE CP CONGRESS

LD292222 Moscow TASS in English 2151 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- "The Philippine Communist Party, which bears high the banner of the defence of the interests of the working people of its country, consistently upholds the cause of peace and security in Asia and throughout the world, and which comes out against the aggresive policy of U.S. imperialism, for friendship and cooperation between the peoples of our two countries, is held in profound respect in the Soviet Union". This is said in the message of greetings of the CPSU Central Committee sent to the delegates to the Ninth Congress of the Philippine Communist Party.

The CPSU Central Committee stressed that the congress of the Philippine Communist Party is taking place in a complex international situation when the issue of war and peace has become the major problem of our time. "The CPSU holds that a solution to mankind's major problem of preserving peace on earth can be achieved now through the united efforts of all the peace forces which by their joint action can foil the ominous designs of the aggressive circles of imperialism".

"In the present-day international situation special responsibility for the destiny of peace and for the vital interests of the peoples rests with the communists. By its striving for the unity of left-wing, democratic and national-patriotic forces, the PCP makes a contribution to the consolidation of national independence and to the realization of the ideals of peace and social progress in accord with the aspirations of the Philippine people".

The CPSU Central Committee wishes the fraternal Philippine Communist Party further successes in its lofty efforts.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES ROMANIAN ENVOY 26 DEC

PM291456 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Ambassadors Received"]

[Text] E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, received M. Ion, member of the RCP Central Committee and Romanian ambassador to the USSR, on 26 December.

In the course of the talk, which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere, satisfaction was expressed at the progressive development of Soviet-Romanian relations and the dynamic growth in the volume of economic cooperation between the two countries. The decisive significance of the meetings between M.S. Gorbachev and N. Ceausescu for the further expansion and improvement of Soviet-Romanian ties in all spheres and the enrichment of the content was stressed.

The importance was noted of the all-round utilization of such progressive new forms of cooperation as production sharing, the creation of joint enterprises, and the establishment of direct ties between production associations and organizations, which will promote the fulfillment of the tasks set by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 13th RCP Congress for accelerating the two countries' socioeconomic development.

Mention was made of the great significance of the results of the Moscow working meeting of the leaders of the CEMA socialist countries' fraternal parties for improving and enhancing the quality of their cooperation and strengthening peace and international security.

In the course of an exchange of opinions on international questions it was stressed that in the struggle for a nuclear-free world, secure for everyone -- a real path to which is opened up by the initiatives put forward by the USSR at the Soviet-U.S. meeting at Reykjavik -- increasing significance is attached to cooperation among the socialist community countries and the stepping up of the efforts of all peace-loving, progressive forces.

OFFICIALS CONFER FRIENDSHIP ORDER ON GDR ENVOY

PM291454 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Dec 86 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on the Award of the Order of Friendship of the Peoples to Egon Winkelmann, GDR Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the USSR" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] For active work to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the GDR, Egon Winkelmann, GDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, is awarded the Order of Friendship of the Peoples.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.
T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.
Moscow, Kremlin, 19 December 1986

GORBACHEV RECEIVES PORTUGUESE CP LEADER

LD291822 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Today Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev met with Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], who stopped over in Moscow. In greeting Alvaro Cunhal, Comrade Gorbachev stressed that Soviet Communists value the fraternal friendship and cooperation with the PCP based on the adherence of the CPSU and the PCP to common goals and ideals. A detailed exchange of opinions was held on major issues of the modern-day international situation, on ways of halting the arms race in light of the results at Reykjavik, and on strengthening security in Europe and in other regions of our planet. Issues of raising the collaboration of the international communist and workers movement at the present critical stage of its historic development were discussed, and the importance of the search for new forms of contact and cooperation between communists, in keeping with the spirit of the times, was noted. The unity of views and the complete mutual understanding of the CPSU and the PCP were confirmed on all issues discussed.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev spoke of the profound restructuring which is going on in Soviet society, of the positive shifts in the process of its all-round renovation that are gathering strength, and of the difficulties and problems standing in the way.

Alvaro Cunhal stated the constant support of Portuguese Communists for the work of the CPSU in implementing the course of the 27th congress and stressed that the change taking place in the USSR, the dynamic, peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state, meet with a broad, interested response in Portugal. The PCP general secretary spoke of the party's struggle for the interests of the working people, for the national interests of the country, and for an active Portuguese policy in the interests of peace and disarmament.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Alvaro Cunhal stressed the importance of raising the level of relations and the development of mutually beneficial cooperation between the Soviet Union and Portugal in the interests of strengthening peace and security in Europe.

The general secretaries of the CPSU and the PCP expressed the desire of both parties to continue to strengthen friendship and solidarity between Soviet and Portuguese Communists.

GORBACHEV ENVOYS GREET SWEDISH PEACE CAMPAIGNERS

LD292100 Moscow TASS in English 2046 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text Stockholm December 29 TASS -- Today representatives of the Embassy of the USSR in Sweden met with Ambassador Inga Tursson, a prominent Swedish public and political figure, former leader of the Swedish delegation at the Geneva-based U.N. Committee for Disarmament, and handed over to her a reply from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), to the participants in the "Great Peace Journey".

This large-scale anti-war activity was initiated by the women's organizations of the Swedish peace movement.

Inga Tursson chairs the board of the "Great Peace Journey".

The purpose of the peace journey was to attract the attention of the heads of state and government of various countries of all continents of the world to the need to take steps aimed at introducing full ban on the production, deployment, and use of all types of weapons of mass destruction, and first of all a ban on nuclear arms, at settling all international conflicts by peaceful means, and at using resources in the interests of progress and solving the urgent problems of mankind.

During the "Great Peace Journey" which began in Stockholm in May last year and had three stages, the peace campaigners requested the heads of state and government of many countries of all continents to express their points of view on these matters, and in most cases received replies to the requests.

Mikhail Gorbachev's reply to the participants in the "Great Peace Journey" says:

"Your intention to find out the readiness of the governments of all U.N. member nations to promote the cause of peace and peoples' security is an important and useful undertaking.

"Mankind has approached the line when the task of removing the nuclear danger, of curtailing the arms race, and of laying down the foundations of universal security has become utterly urgent.

"The elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear ones; a reduction in military activity everywhere; a settlement of the arising conflicts by peaceful means; the use of the latest advances in science and technology for the benefit of all the peoples in the world and the guarantee of the right of every people to manage their own resources in the name of meeting man's basic needs. All these are important elements of the building of a safe world".

"The Soviet Union proves in words and in deeds its profound interest in the solution of all these urgent problems and for the sake of this is ready to cooperate with all countries, political and social forces.

"By giving priority to values common to the whole of mankind, you reaffirm the vital power of the new thinking and new approach to the realities of the nuclear-missile age. It is possible to avert the nuclear threat and to guarantee mankind's survival only through the common efforts of the entire international community".

"I regard the Soviet leader's reply as convincing illustration of the support for the goals of our peace journey," Inga Tursson told a TASS correspondent.

"The peoples of all countries have full right to ask the government what they do for the observance of the U.N. Charter. Herein was one of the principal aims of the 'Great Peace Journey'. This is why it is greatly gratifying that Mikhail Gorbachev responded to our questions. It is highly positive that the Soviet political leadership strives to abide by the U.N. Charter and by the goals proclaimed in it," Inga Tursson pointed out.

DPA CITES PROVISIONAL DATA ON EMIGRATION TO FRG

LD222030 Hamburg DPA in German 1451 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow 22 Dec (DPA) -- From January this year up to 18 December, a total of 783 Soviet citizens of German ethnic origin were given an exit visa from the Soviet Union. Thus, judging by this provisional assessment, the emigration situation has indeed improved in comparison with 1985 (417), but, compared with previous years it still looks rather poor.

According to a statement from the German Embassy in Moscow today, there were large fluctuations in the monthly figures, but this should not be seen as being related to the political climate between Bonn and Moscow prevailing at the time.

Since 1976 there has been a continual fall in the number of ethnic Germans emigrating, of whom there are about 2 million in the Soviet Union. Since 1980, about 65,000 ethnic Germans have sought permission to emigrate. According to experts' views, the figure is said to be even considerably higher. In 1976, an average of 480 Soviet citizens emigrated each month to the FRG; in 1984 it was 72; this year, according to provisional figures, it was an average of 65.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON $500 MILLION ITALIAN CREDIT

AU030901 Rome ANSA in English 0827 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] (ANSA) Moscow, December 2 -- The Soviet Vneshtorgbank [Foreign Trade Bank] and the Italian state-controlled medium term credit institution Mediocredito Centrale have initialed an accord providing the Soviets with a 500 million-dollar credit line, it was learned here Tuesday.

The agreement is expected to be ready for signing in January, apparently in Italy.

The understanding was worked out during a visit to the Soviet Union by Gian Piero Elia, the director general of the state agency which manages interest allocations.

The purpose of the credit line is to finance Italian exports to the Soviet Union to help correct the Italian deficit in bilateral trade. The credit would be for five or seven and-a-half years, according to the type of goods exported. Seven percent would be paid on five year loans and seven and-a-half on the longer loans.

BALTIC EXERCISES WITH SWEDEN, FINLAND BEGIN

LD101020 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 10 Dec 86

[Text] Joint exercises of Finland, Sweden and the Soviet Union in carrying out rescue operations at sea begin in the Baltic today. Taking part will be the relevant services from Helsinki, Turku, Stockholm, and Leningrad. The main aim of the exercises is to practice joint operations by the three countries and also to test systems for notification and warning.

KAMENTSEV RECEIVES NICARAGUAN MINISTER RUIZ

PM241455 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] On 19 December V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received H. Ruiz, member of the Sandinista National Liberation Front National Leadership and minister for foreign cooperation of the Republic of Nicaragua, who is in the USSR in connection with a session of the Soviet-Nicaraguan Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation.

Questions of the state of Soviet-Nicaraguan trade and economic relations and prospects for their development were discussed in the talks, which were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Nicaraguan Energy Minister (E. Rappaccioli) and E. Castillo, Nicaraguan ambassador to the USSR, participated in the talks.

On 18 December talks were held between H. Ruiz and K.F. Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. Questions of developing economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Nicaragua were discussed.

TASS CITES NICARAGUAN MILITARY SUCCESSES

LD252229 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Managua December 25 TASS -- The successes scored by the Sandinist People's Army in fighting the gangs of Somocista mercenaries have forged substantially the gains by the Nicaraguan revolution, Juan Jose Ubeda, chief of the Home Affairs Department of the Sixth Military District, told the newspaper "BARRICADA".

This district, which unites the northern departments of Jinotega and Natagalpa, is the site of key combat operations against formation of counter-revolutionaries who are funded and armed by the U.S. CIA.

The liberation of a number of hard-of-access highland areas where gangs of mercenaries operated became one of the main achievements of the year, Ubeda said. Thanks to the day-to-day painstaking work with residents of the liberated areas to inform them about the policy of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the revolutionary government it became possible dramatically to cut the social base for support of the counter-revolution.

Many peasants who fell victim to Washington's anti-Sandinist slanderous campaign dissociated themselves from the bandits, Ubeda said.

Heavy defeats suffered by U.S. mercenaries brought about their further moral degradation. Many of them realized that their struggle against their own people was senseless and voluntarily laid down arms. About 1,000 bandits surrended to the authorities in 1986.

Ubeda reported that militia and state security bodies discovered covert weapons and ammunition depots destined for carrying out acts of sabotage at industrial and civilian facilities and terrorist acts against civilians.

CPSU'S RAZUMOVSKIY TOURS PERM OBLAST 26-27 DEC

PM291501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 86 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Specificity and Effectiveness in Restructuring"]

[Text] G.P. Razumovskiy, who was in Perm 26-27 December, familitarized himself with the oblast party organization's work on the implementation of restructuring in economic and cultural building.

He visited the city's No. 1 Vocational and Technical School, where he was briefed in the organizaton of the tuition and education process and the production training of students. The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee had meetings with the labor collectives of the Ya.M. Sverdlov "Motorostroitel" Association, the V.I. Lenin Machine Building Plant, and the "Lobanskoye" Experimental Production Farm, and toured the oblast exhibition of national economic achievements and the diorame-memorial to the 1905 armed uprising of Perm workers.

The conversations with workers, specialists, and party and economic leaders centered on questions concerning the more effective utilization of the West Ural region's production and scientific potential, the further improvement of labor quality, and the accelerated development of the social and cultural spheres. Noting the serious shortcomings along these avenues of work, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee emphasized that, under the new conditions of economic management, particularly great importance attaches to the purposeful work by party organizations to fulfill the tasks set in the CPSU Central Committee Politburo resolution on the report by the Perm Party Obkom -- to rapidly advance the oblast's national economy in terms of technical standards and efficiency and to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of the 5-year plan's targets for all indicators.

G.P. Razumovskiy visited Perm's new Parkovyy microrayon and city's trade union balneotherapy and mud bath spa center. It was noted in the course of meetings with Perm's working people that housing construction in the oblast center is still progressing at a slow pace, and that trade, public catering, and consumer and medical services for the population are underdeveloped. Particular attention was drawn to the importance of participation by all enterprises, regardless of their specific purpose or departmental subordination, in the development of the city's ecnomy and services sphere and in raising the standard of the upkeep of the city.

A meeting was held with first secretaries of CPSU gorkoms and raykoms and the oblast's party aktiv. During his tour of the oblast, G.P. Razumovskiy was accompanied by B.V. Konoplev, first secretary of the Perm CPSU Obkom, and Oblispolkom Chairman V.A. Petrov.

BIRYUKOVA DISCUSSES REFORM IN BELORUSSIA

LD292245 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 29 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] From 25-29 December Comrade Biryukova was in Belorussia. She acquainted herself with the activities of the party organization of the republic concerning the fulfillment of the tasks put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress to saturate the market with various goods and services.

During the conversations held in labor collectives, prime attention was paid to the transfer of Belorussia's light industry enterprises to complete financial autonomy, self-financing, paying their way, and to the introduction of the State Acceptance Service.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee stressed that the party and soviet bodies are to introduce progressive forms of trade more vigorously and plan concrete measures securing fundamental upturns in the area of services within the next few years.

A meeting was held in the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party between Comrade Biryukova and the party aktiv of the republic. Comrade Slyunkov and other comrades were present along with Comrade Biryukova during a visit to labor collectives.

SLYUNKOV DELIVERS REPORT TO MINSK AKTIV MEETING

LD251836 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1540 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] At the republican meeting of the party, administrative, trade union, and komsomol aktiv that took place in Minsk today, results of work in 1986 and the socialist pledges of workers in Belorussia's agro-industrial complex in worthily welcoming the 70th anniversary of the Great October were discussed.

A report was delivered by Slyunkov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party.

Outlining the targets for the acceleration of agricultural production, the participants in the meeting relied on the experience of frontranking farms, on the good results achieved in growing potatoes and root crops, and the strengthening of the fodder base of animal husbandry. The speakers noted that it is necessary to change attitudes toward flax growing, which has turned out among the laggards, and that it is time for the republic to progress to self-sufficiency in vegetables and fruit.

Ways of reaching 4,000-liter milk yields per cow by the end of the 5-year plan-period were carefully analyzed.

At the meeting it was stressed that economic successes are impossible without restructuring the organizing, mass-political work of party and other public organizations and that its forms and methods must assist the achievements of high aims.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON ANDREY SAKHAROV

Discusses Other Prisoners

AU241557 Paris AFP in English 1552 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, Dec 24 (AFP) -- Soviet dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov called Wednesday [24 December] for 1987 to be dedicated to "the release of prisoners of conscience" in the Soviet Union, but also paid tribute to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I don't want a tragic event like the death in detention of my friend Anatoliy Marchenko, which coincided with my freedom, to happen again," he said in an interview with the Moscow correspondents of French television and radio.

He said that Mr. Marchenko, who died on December 8 at Tchistopol prison was "practically killed in prison." [passage omitted]

The Nobel Peace Prize winner also said in the interview that he had "a lot of respect for Mr. Gorbachev and his new policy of transparence."

"I think this new policy is very important and has been missing a lot from our country," he said. "The current changes (in the Soviet Union) are very important, but must be still more extensive in many areas."

Mr. Sakharov said he was ready to meet Mr. Gorbachev, but that the meeting depends on the attitude of the Soviet leader. "I never refuse any meeting," he said. The "father" of the Soviet atomic-bomb also confirmed his intention to resume his academic studies. He emphasised on his arrival Tuesday that he wanted to work again.

According to witness accounts he was warmly welcomed and applauded by colleagues Tuesday afternoon at the Soviet Institute of Energy Physics where he worked till being sent into internal exile in January 1980. "He looked happy to be back with us and we are delighted to have him among us again. His office is ready and we hope he will resume activities," one institute member told a Western reporter.

Mr. Sakharov told Agence France-Presse at his apartment Wednesday morning that he was still tired from his internal exile and the journey home and that he could not "say anything for the moment."

Smiling and apparently relaxed, Mr. Sakharov said he still did not have a telephone in his apartment, but that he hoped it would soon be reconnected. He said he would be in contact with journalists as soon as he could.

Wishes To Meet Gorbachev

LD241902 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] There will perhaps be an East-East summit in Moscow soon. Sakharov, the Soviet dissident who has returned to the Soviet capital after 7 years' exile in the prison town of Gorkiy, wants to meet the man who has him brought back, the master of the Kremlin, Gorbachev.

When he was received by Andrey Sakharov this morning in his modest two-room flat in Moscow, our correspondent Ulysse Gosset was struck by his desire for dialogue -- as if talking, just talking, had become the only really efficient weapon for the most famous dissident in the world. So, an important recording — Sakharov's first interview, in which he speaks of Gorbachev, talking to Ulysse Gosset.

[Begin Sakharov recording in Russian with superimposed French translation] Well, that depends on Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. I would never refuse any meeting. This, of course, would be a good thing, since I could tell him in person what I have already told him on the telephone, what I think, and a lot of other things. And I could repeat to him yet again my thanks for the change in our destiny, in our fate, which has just taken place. I have great respect for Gorbachev. The new policy of glasnost, of openness, in our country today, seems to me to be very important. It has always been lacking in our country.

And the changes that are taking placve at the moment seem to me to be very important. They certainly have to be pursued in several areas. Therefore, I would like, it it is possible and if I am asked, to meet Gorbachev. But that does not depend on me. [end recording]

After this emphatic tribute to Gorbachev, Andrey Sakharov deplored the death in detention of his friend Anatoliy Marchenko and hoped that 1987 will be the year of the release of prisoners of conscience.

ANSA Interview

AU271447 Rome ANSA in English 1019 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, December 27 [dateline as received] -- Recently released Soviet dissident Andrey Sakharov said that one of the reasons that he is returning to the Soviet Academy of Sciences is to work for nuclear safety to avoid incidents like April's Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster, in an exlusive interview to ANSA.

The Soviet physicist added that he had at first considered connecting his return to scientific "patriotic" studies on a personal invitation from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, "to the liberation of the political prisoners", but then decided that he could be "more useful to the cause of human rights" if he worked at the same time for "the safe and peceful use of atomic energy."

The "Father" of the Soviet hydrogen bomb then underlined that "one cannot do without nuclear energy" and the greatest problem in this field was making it safe to avoid the repetition of the Chernobyl incident. On April 26, an explosion at the Chernobyl reactor sent a radioactive cloud across Europe contaminating the envirnoment and ruining agriculture. It was the worst nuclear disaster in the atomic age.

Sakharov told ANSA that the incident had caused him great "anguish" during his "internal exile" in the city of Gorkiy, 400 kilometers from the Soviet capital. The Nobel Peace Prize winner added that he had learned of the catastrophe through the Soviet press and "immediately sensed that the real truth was being hidden, a truth that has now been fully revealed."

In his ANSA interview, Sakharov repeated his opposition to the American "Strategic Defence Initiative" (SDI) also known as "Star Wars." The Soviet physicist recalled that in a 1983 "open letter", made before Washington decided to go ahead with the SDI program, he had underlined the danger of developing "Star Wars" program that could easily be turned from a defensive system to an offensive one.

In his "open letter" Sakharov had defined any "Star Wars" program as a "cosmic Maginot Line" and that it was wrong to think that who controls space also controls the earth.

For Sakharov, "the most important problem today is the distrust that keeps the United States and the Soviet Union from negotiating and reaching an agreement that would satisfy both sides. He added that when the U.S. realises that it cannot continue a SDI program, "the political climate will change and it will be easier to set new bases for reciprocal trust" that will facilitate a compromise solution to the issue of disarmament.

On the difference between the Kremlin administration of Leonid Brezhnev, who sent him into internal exile in 1980, and that of Gorbachev, Sakharov cited the increased "transparency" that exists in the Soviet Union today and that one can now read in the official press things for which people were sent to prison for in the past.

The dissident Soviet physicist then re-affirmed his "total commitment to the cause of human rights in the Soviet Union" and said that he would never stop seeking the release of those who are serving prison terms for "crimes of conscience." He added that he hoped the changes taking place in his nation were "only a beginning" and that they will lead to greater respect for civil rights.

Sakharov was particularly saddened by the death of dissident Anatoliy Marchenko, who died a week before Sakharov's release after a long hunger strike. The Nobel Prize winner said that he agreed with the wife of the late dissident, that he had "died in battle."

In his telephone conversation with Gorbachev, during which he was told he could return to Moscow, Sakharov said that he pointed out to the Kremlin leader the need to resolve the question of civil rights and asked for the release of political prisoners "for the good of the Soviet Union, peace and the difficult tasks he himself recognised after taking over the leadership of the party."

The interview concluded with Sakharov making an appeal for dissident mathematician Yuriy Shikhannovic and Sergey Khodorovic who for over 50 days have been subject to intense "psychological pressure."

Further AFP Interview

AU301128 Paris AFP in English 1118 GMT 30 Dec 86

[By Milan Daragovic]

[Text] Moscow, Dec 30 (AFP) -- The West should keep up pressure over human rights in the Soviet Union, dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov, who returned here a week ago after seven years internal exile, said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner said he was "sceptical" about the usefulness of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) and described as "monstrous" the April 26 nuclear disaster at Chernobyl in the Ukraine.

Mr. Sakharov said that the West should make human rights observance the main plank of its dealings with socialist countries and in particular with the Soviet Union.

The West had an interest in seeing that the Soviet Union amnestied political prisoners. An open society was "safer for its neighbours" he said.

There had to be firmness, he said, adding that it was not for him to say what methods should be used.

"I don't have the right, for example, to call for an economic boycott," he said.

He described the political climate inside the Soviet Union as "very contradictory." He said there was a move towards more openness, but concrete action was needed.

"The government's attitude towards prisoners of conscience will be significant in this respect," he said. "It will demonstrate whether there is a genuine process of democratisation or if it is just propaganda."

He defined "prisoners of conscience" as those "persecuted for their opinions and actions linked to their opinions, who do not resort to violence or incite others to violence".

Mr. Sakharov, often referred to as the "father" of the Soviet atomic bomb, said that he was "sceptical" about SDI. He said, "I don't like this programme. It is destructive and useless. It does nothing for the salvation of humanity."

He said that for the moment he saw no reason for alarm about SDI. "There is nothing to suggest that one can produce space-to-surface strike weapons more effective than existing surface-to surface missiles," he said.

He did not believe it would constitute an effective defense against nuclear missiles. It would always be beaten by offensive methods, but he said "work on SDI is already under way in numerous countries, particularly in the United States and probably also in the Soviet Union."

Mr. Sakharov said he thought SDI should not be allowed to become an obstacle to the resolution of other disarmament problems. "You should always separate problems and resolve them one by one. There is no danger in studying SDI separately."

He said the "rigid package" unveiled by the Soviet Union at the Reykjavik U.S.-Soviet summit was wrong. "It compromises chances of reaching agreement. We do not know what happened at Reykjavik but if it is true that SDI was the main obstacle, this question should be provisionally left to one side and a compromise sought on it later."

"The United States and the Soviet Union must reconcile their points of view, stop accusing one another and try to find solutions calmly and without haste," he said.

Mr. Sakharov described the Chernobyl accident as "monstrous" and said news about the extent of the catastrophe only reached him in exile in Gorkiy towards the end of May.

He said it was certain there had been "numerous errors" and some blame also lay with the unreliability of the type of nuclear reactor at Chernobyl.

He said the evacuation and information to the population had been carried out very belatedly. "A lot of people received strong doses of radiation. Children were only evacuated after they went to the scene to watch the fire and were left wearing contaminated clothes for several days."

"The worst of it is that many people will suffer from the effects of nuclear fallout. They are not ill yet but there is a likelihood that they will get cancer or that children will be born with genetic defects."

According to official Soviet figures 31 people died and 203 were injured in the disaster.

Mr. Sakharov said he had had no contact with the authorities since his return to Moscow and did not expect to have any.

Medvedev Interviewed

AU272035 Paris AFP in English 2030 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Bonn, Dec 27 (AFP) -- Andrey Sakharov's return to Moscow this week after nearly seven years in the closed city of Gorkiy marks "an ideological turning point" in the Soviet Union, dissident Soviet historian Roy Medvedev has been quoted as saying.

The West German weekly magazine DER SPIEGEL, in its issue to appear Monday, quoted Mr. Medvedev as saying Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev appeared to be trying an entirely new tack in dealing with dissidents.

"Until now, intellectuals have said they wouldn't believe in a liberalization until Sakharov was freed. If the government keeps up its policy of liberalization in art and literature, the main dissident currents will be brought into the official mainstream and therefore, be better controlled," he was quoted as saying.

Mr. Medvedev, 61, was expelled from the Soviet Communist Party in 1969, largely for his outspoken support of dissident positions.

He said another sign of significant change was the attention given in the Soviet press last week to unrest in the Asian republic of Kazakhstan, which previously might have gone uncovered.

Mr. Sakharov, a 65-year-old physicist, won the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize for his human rights work. His release from internal exile has been widely viewed as the most dramatic evidence that Mr. Gorbachev is seeking to ease international criticism of the Soviet Union's human rights record.

DISSIDENT PACIFIST FREED FROM LABOR CAMP

AU281833 Paris AFP in English 1821 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, Dec 28 (AFP) -- Dissident Soviet pacifist Larissa Chukayeva has been freed from a two-year labour camp sentence imposed in July, fellow pacifist Aleksandr Rubchenko said Sunday.

Mr. Rubchenko said Mrs. Chukayeva returned to the capital at the end of the week. Both are members of the "Group for the Building of Confidence Between the Soviet Union and the United States."

Mr. Rubchenko denied an official statement that the group had disbanded. He said six people representing the group had approved a statement saying: "We consider that at the present time we have done all in our power, and future progress can be achieved only at a national level, and no longer through our isolated efforts."

Thirty other members of the group also said they would "continue their work and their defence of prisoners."

Mrs. Chukayeva's release follows hard on the heels of dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov's return to Moscow after seven years of internal exile in the Siberian city of Gorkiy.

LENINGRADSKIY RAYKOM FIRST SECRETARY DISMISSED

PM281503 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Moscow CPSU Gorkom"]

[Text] At its 15 December session the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau examined the question of serious shortcomings in the style and methods of work of I.V. Shakhmanov, first secretary of the Leningradskiy CPSU Raykom.

It was noted that I.V. Shakhmanov failed to draw conclusions from criticism leveled repeatedly against him by the party gorkom and did not take measures to establish a highly demanding and exacting atmosphere in the activity of the raykom and the primary party organizations.

I.V. Shakhmanov committed breaches of the Leninist principles of the selection and placement of cadres, displayed unscrupulousness and a superficial approach, frequently ignored collegiality when solving cadre questions, and selected leaders on the basis of personal loyalty. He often replaced work on stepping up party influence on the activity of collectives by administrative orders and petty tutelage of soviet and economic leaders, which inflicted serious damage to the cause.

I.V. Shakhmanov's report to the Leningradskiy CPSU Raykom plenum was examined in the light of the shortcomings existing in his work. Addressing the plenum, he failed to self-critically expose the causes of serious omissions and errors. Despite the sharp criticism contained in a number of speeches and the suggestions made that he be relieved of his duties as first secretary of the CPSU raykom, the majority of raykom members failed to evaluate in a principled fashion the flawed style of the party leader's work. The CPSU raykom plenum limited itself to just warning Shakhmanov.

The Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau, having analyzed the materials of the recent Leningradskiy Party Raykom plenum and the numerous responses by Muscovites, and taking into account the reaction caused by material published in MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA, severely reprimanded I.V. Shakhmanov for major shortcomings in work with cadres and in his style and methods of leadership, and relieved him of his duties as first secretary of the Leningradskiy party raykom.

The party raykom bureau's attention was drawn to the conciliatory attitude toward shortcomings in the first secretary's work and the lack of exactingness and accountability toward leading cadres.

The Leningradskiy CPSU Raykom was assigned the task of resolutely eliminating manifestations of complacency and total license and to ensure an atmosphere which would promote broad development of criticism and self-criticism, publicity, and enhancement of party demandingness toward all Communists without exception, regardless of their length of service or the position they occupy.

Bedrin Appointed

PM281508 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "CPSU Raykom Plenum"]

[Text] The Leningradskiy CPSU Raykom held a plenum which examined an organizational question.

Comrade I.V. Shakhmanov was relieved of his duties as first secretary and member of the Leningradskiy party raykom bureau.

N.P. Bedrin, previously working as deputy chairman of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Party Control Commission, was elected first secretary and ember of the CPSU raykom bureau.

KUYBYSHEVSKIY RAYKOM FIRST SECRETARY FIRED

PM281457 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Dec 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Kuybyshevskiy CPSU Raykom Plenum"]

[Text] The Kuybyshevskiy CPSU Raykom held a plenum which examined an organizational question.

The plenum noted that Raykom First Secretary I.F. Komzolov and Raykom Secretaries A.F. Peshkov and T.A. Zuykova failed to properly organize the work of the raykom bureau and apparatus in fulfilling the 27th CPSU Congress decisions.

I.F. Komzolov committed breaches of the norms of party ethics and did not prevent the issue of a certificate for completed secondary education with inflated grades to his son. I.F. Komzolov was reprimanded and was relieved of his duties as first secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

A.F. Peshkov and T.A. Zuykova were strictly censured.
The plenum acceded to T.A. Zuykova's request and relieved her of her duties as secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

Ye.A. Panteleyev, previously working as general director of the "Mosbytkhim" Production Association, was elected first secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

V.T. Smirnov, who previously worked as secretary of the Moscow science and production association's enterprises party committee, was elected secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

Yu.S. Karabasov, secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, took part in the plenum's work.

GORKIY KOMSOMOL OBKOM'S ROGOZHKIN REPLACED BY SUVOROV

PM281724 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 24 Dec 86 p 1

[Correspondent A. Shcherbo report under the rubric "Komsomol News"]

[Text] A plenum of the Gorkiy Komsomol Obkom was held yesterday. The plenum approved the obkom's report to the oblast Komsomol report and election conference, and examined an organizational question.

S. Rogozhkin was relieved of his duties as first secretary and member of the obkom bureau in connection with his confirmation as chief of the Komsomol Central Committee Cultural Section. G. Suvorov, who previously worked as second secretary of the Komsomol obkom, was elected first secretary. T. Sheshokina was elected second secretary, and M. Krokhonyatkin was elected secretary of the Komsomol obkom.

Yu.N. Khristoradnov, first secretary of the Gorkiy Obkom, addressed those assembled.

EMIGRES INTERVIEWED ON RETURN FROM U.S.

LD292227 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] A group of former Soviet citizens who, submitting to Western propaganda, left the USSR, today returned to our country from the United States. Our correspondent Viktor Shcherbakov chatted with some of the repatriates immediately after the arrival of the aircraft at Sheremetyevo Airport from New York.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified female] I am happy that I have returned to my homeland! I am happy! I kiss the ground! There are 65 of us, I am just the first to come out.

[Unidentified male] How many years were you there?

[Female] Nine years.

[Male] Nine years?

[Female] We suffered.

[Shcherbakov] Introduce yourself, please.

[Belchenko] Viktor (Belchenko).

[Shcherbakov] Viktor, were you in the United States for how long?

[Belchenko] I was there 9 years.

[Shcherbakov] And when you left did you have any idea that you might come back?

[Belchenko] No.

[Shcherbakov] And yet that's what happened?

[Belchenko] Yes. I am grateful to the government that I have had the chance to come back.

[Shcherbakov] Some settle, others don't.

[Belchenko] I (?did settle), but I wanted to get back to my native land to my relatives, my country.

[Shcherbakov] In other words, you simply realized that it was better to live...

[Belchenko] Better [words indistinct], yes.

[Shcherbakov] I understand. And did you ever think what you would do, perhaps you would return?

[Belchenko] I think I will take up my profession, the one I have been doing all my life.

[Shcherbakov] And what have you been doing?

[Belchenko] I was a gentlemen's tailor's cutter.

[Shcherbakov] Here in Moscow?

[Belchenko] No, in Kiev.

[Female] This is what I think: If the history of Russia is 2,000 years old, and we have experienced generation by generation the whole history of this land, we have been created out of it. Therefore, that is what is interesting to us, and not some other place -- that is just not interesting. It does not interest us, it is not dear to us.

[Shcherbakov] A purely basic question for you: Do you know where you will live [words indistinct]?

[Female] No, we will work.

[Male] We don't know yet.

[Female] We have always worked; we did not have the advantage of any funds in America. We have always earned our money, and generally speaking, we are healthy people, thank God, healthy. We will work.

DISTINGUISHED CHERNOBYL WORKERS RECEIVE AWARDS

LD241318 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] For courage and unselfish labor demonstrated during the liquidation of the accident at the Chernobyl AES and the elimination of its consequences, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has awarded orders and medals of the USSR to a large group of the most distinguished workers.

The title Hero of the Soviet Union has been given to Major General of Aviation (Antoshkin) and Colonel General Pikalov. The title Hero of Socialist Labor has been given to (Zavidey), brigade leader of drivers and operators of concrete pumps of the 605th construction directorate; (Vykoy), head of the 605th construction directorate; (Samoylenko), deputy head of the shop of the Rostov AES, which is under construction; and (Usanov), deputy minister of medium engineering.

REFORM IN SALARY SYSTEM TO BE INTRODUCED

NC270956 Paris AFP in English 0943 GMT 27 Dec 86

[By Milan Dragovic]

[Text] Moscow, Dec 27 (AFP) -- An estimated 75 million Soviet workers, engineers and white collar employees will have their salaries increased an average 30 per cent after January 1 in a partial reform of the Soviet wage structure, the first such move in three decades.

The stated aim of the reform is to make increases in industrial salary levels dependent on worker performance and on company profits in order "to improve the organization and efficiency of production."

Workers' salaries over the years have risen more rapidly than those of engineers, with the gap between the two narrowing considerably.

Soviet authorities want to eliminate such a trend, which they say discourages highly qualified specialists. An inquiry into the operation of state and collective farms in Siberia revealed that only 13 per cent of those working as heads of sections wanted a promotion while 70 per cent were willingly performing less prestigious tasks that were nevertheless better paid. The study found in effect that workers sometimes earned more than their superiors.

Under the reforms a salary scale will be established for each productive enterprise, with money saved through reductions in personnel or through output above planned objectives used to raise salaries.

An opinion poll, cited by KOMMUNIST, the Communist Party's theoretical journal, disclosed that only one third of industrial and agricultural workers felt they were giving their best effort. All those questioned said their wages were insufficient and pointed to cash bonuses as incentives likely to induce them to work harder.

Salaries of workers are thus to be increased from 20 to 25 per cent on average while those of engineers and technicians will go up 30 to 35 per cent. Thay new system will accord priority to professions having an impact on "scientific and technological progress" in steel, non-ferrous metals, mechanical construction and electronics.

Salaries of skilled workers in light industry and in the food industry will be brought closer to those of workers in processing sectors of heavy industry.

Encouraged skilled labour is the main objective of this mini-reform. While broadly keeping a salary scale based on six categories of workers, the authorities have decided to increase tbe distance between simple workers and higher cadres to the profit of the latter.

The salary range will go from 1 to 1.8 against the present 1 to 1.5, in a country where the average monthly salary is around 200 rubles (300 dollars at the official rate). For some workers in key sectors the scale could go from 1 to 2.3.

Specialists working in high technology sectors could see their salaries rise by 35 to 45 per cent.

In non-productive sectors, the state will continue to subsidize the increase in salaries. Salary rise of an average of 30 per cent are planned by 1990 for workers in public health, culture, specialised secondary school teaching and higher education, at present the most disadvantaged sectors. A young teacher or nurse only earns around 100 rubles (150 dollars) a month, five or six times less than a well-paid worker.

"Workshop" in Estonia

LD241808 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Tallinn December 24 TASS -- The whole of Estonia will become a test workshop next year as an experiment aimed to improve the pay system in the national economy will be staged on a republic-wide scale. The purpose of the experiment is to make the pay packet of every worker strictly dependent on labour productivity and quality.

Commenting on the experiment, Bruno Saul, Estonia's chairman of the Council of Ministers, told TASS that improvements in the pay system were long overdue. The growth of wages and salaries in Estonia, as virtually all over the USSR, often outpaced improvements in labour productivity. Moreover, wage levelling used to quench initiative and suppress the desire to work well.

Under new conditions, good workers can have their pay raised by one-third to one-half.

Those who do not want to work well will have to reconsider or look for other jobs. Improvements in labour productivity, Bruno Saul believes, can release surplus labour. Perhaps, some of the released workers will be unable to find jobs according to training in such a small republic as Estonia. Few people would like to leave their homes, however.

The Estonian Council of Ministers has ruled that all such people will be given an opportunity for retraining. The managers will have the right to pay them average wages from their latest places of occupation. The main goal, however, will be to find jobs for these people right at their places of work, to organize work in two shifts, for example. There will be no joblessness, Saul said in conclusion.

KUZNETSOV ATTENDS TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

LD231458 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Summary] A congress of the geological prospecting workers' trade union ended in Moscow today. Over the last 5-year period more than 650 deposits of minerals have been opened and handed over for industrial assimilation, and the mineral raw material base, capable of satisfying the needs of the national economy until the end of the century, has been srengthened. Taking part in the congress were Comrade Kozlovskiy, USSR minister of geology, and Comrade Kuznetsov, deputy head of a CPSU Central Committee Department.

PAPER NOTES EARLY DECEMBER WEATHER, CROP STATUS

PM291637 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 26 Dec 86 p 1

[Agrometeorologist O. Pisarenko report: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] Temperatures fell in the European part of the USSR 15-17 December following the warm weather at the start of the 10-day period. Nighttime frost fell to 25-35 degrees below zero in regions to the north of the Tallinn-Kaluga-Saratov line, and to 36-45 degrees below zero in the Komi ASSR and the Urals Region. The minimum air temperature in Lithuania, Belorussia, the Ukraine, Moldavia, and the North Caucasus was 7-15 degrees below zero, and 16-24 degrees below zero in Latvia, Estonia, the southwest of the Central Region, the Central-Chernozem Region, and the southern Volga Region.

The rise in temperature observed toward the end of the 10-day period was accompanied by snowfalls. Almost the entire European territory of the USSR was covered by snow on 20 December. Only the North Caucasus and the south of Astrakhan Oblast are clear of snow. The deepest snow cover (16-35 centimeters, and 36-50 centimeters in places) was recorded in the Northern Region, the northeast of the Volga-Vyatka Region, the Volga Region (north of the Penza-Saratov line), and the Urals Region. The snow cover in the remaining part of the territory is no deeper than 15 centimeters. Winter grain crops everywhere were in a state of winter dormancy.

The cold weather resulted in adverse conditions for the wintering of fruit crops and berry shrubs in the Northern Region, most of the Northwest and Central Regions, the Volga-Vyatka and Urals Regions, the northern Volga Region, and the northeastern Central-Chernozem Region. The low temperatures could harm the fruit and leaf buds and the annual growth. The wintering of fruit crops in the Baltic republics, Belorussia, Moldavia, the Ukraine, and the North Caucasus is progressing satisfactorily.

The weather in West Siberia was cold. Nighttime frost fell to 28-35 degrees below zero, and to 36-43 degrees below zero in the north of Omsk and Tyumen Oblasts. The severe frost posed no danger to winter crops, since the fields are beneath a 17-30-centimeter-deep snow cover. The wintering of winter crops there is also progressing satisfactorily.

The weather in the Central Asian republics was cold during most of the 10-day period. The average air temperature everywhere was 2-7 degrees lower than normal, and in places 8-10 degrees below normal, while minimum temperatures fell to 12-22 degrees below zero, and to 8-11 degrees below zero in the extreme south of the territory. Temperatures rose everywhere toward the end of the 10-day period. But the maximum air temperature did not rise above 13 degrees. Winter grain crops were in a state of winter dormancy for most of the 10-day period. For fruit crops, the low temperatures in individual areas could cause partial damage to fruit buds.

TURKESTAN DISTRICT DEPUTY COMMANDER LARIN DIES

PM291911 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Dec 86 Second Edition p 4

[Obituary of A.V. Larin]

[Excerpt] Major General Artur Vasilyevich Larin, deputy commander of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District for combat training and chief of the Combat Training Directorate, has died after a serious illness in his 51st year. [passage omitted]

[Signed] A group of comrades

MILITARY PAPER REPORT ON GEN SEMENOV DEATH NOTED

AU281509 Paris AFP in English 1502 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, Dec 28 (AFP) -- Retired Soviet General Petr Semenov has died after a long illness, the RED STAR army daily reported here Sunday in an obituary signed by Defence Minister Marshal Sergey Sokolov and other senior officials. He was 85.

The paper did not specify when Gen. Semenov died.

Gen. Semenov was an official Soviet hero and had been awarded four "Order of Lenin" medals for military deeds during the civil war which followed the 1917 communist revolution and during World War II.

He later became head of a high military school and commander of artillery troops in the Carpathians.

LEADERS SIGN OBITUARY OF RETIRED GEN ANDRIANOV

PM251455 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

[Obituary of Yu.M. Andrianov]

[Excerpts] Col Gen, retired, Yuriy Mikhaylovich Andrianov has died aged 63 after a long and serious illness. [passage omitted]

Serving in the USSR Defense Ministry Main Missile and Artillery Directorate, he consistently held posts from senior section engineer to first deputy chief of the directorate. From 1984 to his retirement in 1986 Yu.M. Andrianov headed the USSR Defense Ministry Main Missile and Artillery Directorate. [passage omitted]

[Signed] S.L. Sokolov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev, A.D. Lizichev, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, V.M. Shabanov, I.N. Shkadov, M.D. Popkov, A.M. Mayorov, D.A. Grinkevich, P.I. Bazhenov, V.M. Milhalkin, S.Kh. Aganov, M.Ye. Penkin, Yu.M. Potapov, Yu.T. Chesnokov, P.N. Kuleshov, S.I. Varichenko, V.Ya. Lebedev, V.G. Kostev, A.B. Taskayev, S.T. Dashkov, A.N. Zakharov, V.F. Gromakov.

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[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Dec]
Eastern District Komsomol Meets V 6
[KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA 21 Dec]

GERASIMOV ON RETURNEES, FISHING ACCORDS

LD302328 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Excerpts] A briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists has been held at the press center of the Soviet Foreign Ministry. The briefing was conducted by Gennadiy Gerasimov, the man in charge of the Information Department of the ministry.

The outgoing year has shown, said Gennadiy Gerasimov, that new frontiers could have been reached given good will in controlling nuclear weapons and bringing about disarmament. The USSR for its part has displayed a will of this kind. It proposed a program to get rid of the nuclear and all other weapons of mass annihilation by the end of this century, and at the Reykjavik summit it produced a package of wide-ranging proposals. This year the Soviet Union has kept extending its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions. Regrettably the United States and its allies have continued to build up arms. Nonetheless we express hope, said Gennadiy Gerasimov, that next year Western nations will take concrete steps to promote peace and security.

Asked to comment on the return home of a large group of former Soviet citizens after getting disappointed with the American way of life, Gennadiy Gerasimov pointed out that the Soviet Union would continue to favor requests from those who would like to return home. He said that there were more than 1,000 applications of this kind only at the consular department of the Soviet Embassy in the United States. Many other applications of this kind have reached Soviet embassies in other nations. All are being examined. The former Soviet citizens returning home, Gennadiy Gerasimov noted, definitely create certain problems. They must be given jobs, housing and ensured other social allowances to which all Soviet citizens are entitled under the constitution. All these problems will be dealt with by local authorities. [passage omitted]

The Australian and New Zealand press has mounted an unfriendly campaign over the fishing agreement the Soviet Union signed with Vanuatu, said Gennadiy Gerasimov at the briefing. The Soviet Union has been accused of infiltrating this region and destabilizing small insular states. Accusations of this kind, Gennadiy Gerasimov pointed out, are absolutely groundless. The Soviet Union has always tried to maintain good relations with all nations in the Asian-Pacific region. We appreciate developing contacts with the sovereign countries in the South Pacific and consider them natural and mutually beneficial.

Gennadiy Gerasimov also condemned the anti-Soviet hysteria raised by the Western press over a Soviet-Argentine fishing agreement. He pointed out the agreement pertained exclusively to bilateral relations and did not infringe upon the interests of third countries, nor did it hinder a settlement of the Argentine-British dispute. What's more, the Soviet-Argentine fishing agreement is an example of peaceful and constructive international cooperation. Gerasimov concluded by saying this contributed concretely to the formation of a zone of peace and cooperation in the South Atlantic.

ARBATOV INTERVIEWED BY INDIAN JOURNALIST

BK211455 Madras THE HINDU in English 28 Nov 86 p 8

[First of two-part interview with Georgiy Arbatov of USSR Academy of Sciences who visited India as part of a panel of experts in various fields to assist the Soviet delegation in its parleys with Indian counterparts, by special correspondent Manoj Joshi in New Delhi -- date not given]

[Text] Q: What is your assessment of the most recent developments in our region, specifically the decision by the U.S. to supply Pakistan with the AWACS, the Pakistan bomb, the confirmation of U.S.-Pakistan security links in the form of ground facilities for American surveillance and communications?

A: I am not a specialist in the region. I study the U.S. really. What I think in a more philosophical way is that the U.S. had an unusual and unique time after World War II when they had a monopoly of nuclear weapons and when their major competitors, Japan and Europe, were in a bad way, and the USSR was in ruins with 20 million deaths, etc. Somehow it brought back the eternal dream of the manifest destiny of the U.S. Then the situation started to change, we made up the gap in nuclear weapons. During the Cuban missile crisis we had 300 warheads and they had about 5,000 and despite that they could not dream of starting a nuclear war. Also we made considerable economic progress in the 1950s and 1960s and so did their allies in Western Europe.

At around this time, there was also a great crisis of old empires and the Americans hoped that because of their strength they could replace them. They were for the 'open door' and you are for this when you are stronger: But then it turned out that many of the ex-colonial countries were not so timid and they wanted to build their future themselves with their own mistakes. They are today nobody's countries, they are their own masters and they have become mature as well. Then the whole U.S. policy ran into difficulties. Maybe with or without the Vietnam war which was like a catalyst. This brought about a new understanding where the U.S. remained a great power but was cut to proper size by history and by events. This was very difficult, very painful for many Americans to understand. This process of adjustment was very painful for the U.S. which had lived with a feeling of complete security between two oceans with militarily weak rivals and friendly neighbours. And suddenly the Americans woke up to find that they were as vulnerable as we have been in our history and in the economic field too they understood that they were no longer the leaders. The U.S. would have remained a great country but a country without imperial dreams, with an understanding of what it could do and what it couldn't. But it was very difficult for many to come to grips with this and there were dormant feelings in many Americans of their exceptionalism and manifest destiny. I think Reagan brought this to the surface. And this is what brought him to the surface as well. It is like the counter-reformation, it is an attempt to play back history...and so we have lived for the last six years with a group of people wanting to replay history, to bring back military superiority, and to bring back the role of military policeman of the world. Hegel has said history repeats itself once as a tragedy and another time as a farce. The comedy in Iran recently points to this and near Iran is Pakistan.

Q: Do you see the developments as indicative of the cooperation of Pakistan into the world-wide U.S. security system with this AWACS etc.?

A: It (the AWACS) can look here and there. I think there is a lot of technological-militaristic romanticism. They think this can change the facts of life but it hardly will. The Americans tried to do it with Iran but what happened? I'm not sure what they are doing for Pakistan makes it more stable. [paragraph continues]

It actually destabilises the region. Of course it may be part of a grand design to weaken India just as they tried to do it to us by the arms race and the Strategic Defense Initiative. Giving more and more sophisticated arms to Pakistan may also destabilise India which was never a country that they trusted. But I don't want to go into this because I don't want to sound as though I am sowing seeds of more distrust between India and the U.S. than already exists. That is not our policy....

I would say that most Americans would abhor Pakistan becoming a nuclear power. They are afraid. Their leadership, begging your pardon, is tremendously illiterate. Even in the sense of strategy it doesn't understand the viper's nest it is creating there.

Q: In this context will the USSR reconsider its decision to withdraw from Afghanistan in a unilateral fashion?

A: We don't say we will do so unilaterally. We came in at the invitation of the Government of Afghanistan and we shall withdraw our troops but not simply without any conditions but as part of a settlement which will include some conditions: stopping interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs which comes mainly from Pakistan and is funded by the U.S. I think that the Pakistanis have already started to understand, that it has become dangerous for them as well. It destabilises their Government with all the tribal feuds that you see.

Q: The U.S. has been insisting that the regional issues and human rights should form part of the overall arms control package. Why hasn't the USSR insisted that the winding down of American involvement in Afghanistan or the winding down of the Rapid Deployment Force be included in such discussions?

A: We maintain that this is part of an American game. It should have been understood. Here we were in the midst of important negotiations, a treaty to save the very concept of arms control, the ratification of SALT II, to prevent the breakout from all constraints and there was, according to us, a mutual understanding that this had to be settled. The U.S. Government, not because it wanted to stop the arms race, but because it felt pressure since 1982, agreed to negotiations which ran into a stalemate. These negotiations we understood were the number one problem to be discussed. Then they played the usual trick of substituting the real agenda by something artificial by saying that just as important as the main thing were some regional problems and human rights issues and they tried to create an impression that we were against the discussion of such problems. We said we are not against them but on American terms because when they speak about regional problems they mean breaking the neck of Nicaragua, or how to create a deeper impasse in Afghanistan or support Savimbi (the UNITA leader) in Angola. They did not think of South Africa or a political solution in Afghanistan or the West Asia where the most dangerous situation exists or the Iran-Iraq war. No, they helped Iran as we see. Then you cannot discuss everything in 1-1/2 days, you have many difficult problems and obstacles to overcome and then they say that in order to solve this problem we have to solve 10 additional problems. We said we're ready to discuss but let's not shy away from this main problem of survival of the human race.

Q: Will you comment on the recent U.S. attempts to build bridges with the Khomeyni Government in Iran?

A: This episode is one in a succession of lies brought forward in the past few months, the disinformation campaign against Libya, then this guy was caught (Hasenfus, the American who was shot down in Nicaragua while dropping supplies to the Contras), then their behaviour after Reykjavik, how they lied. We don't have one version of Reykjavik but 10 official versions of their salesmanship. [paragraph continues]

The American people and the world must think about what kind of people we have to deal with, what policy we have to deal with and what these people are prepared to do. They are prepared to intervene in a war which is considered senseless, tremendously dangerous from the point of view of its consequences, which has cost hundreds of thousands of lives. But these were not American lives so they don't bother about it. And here they did not even adhere to their own constitutional rules. It is like a farce really, these false documents, lies, disguises etc.

Q: Why has this war persisted?

A: It is often forgotten as to how the war started. It is the duty of everyone to do something. I can see the difficulties now. It has a legacy of emotion, bitterness. It is everyone's duty not to encourage it. I'm sorry the U.S. hasn't followed this golden rule. The late Olaf Palme tried and he told me several times about the problems...but he didn't succeed.

Q: What's the USSR's role in all this?

A: We are against the war of course, wholeheartedly, and we tried to use the modest influence we have with both parties to find a way for a political settlement and this is not only our wish but our interest just as it would be of any decent nation in the region and around the world. If this war lasts longer it will not only result in more bloodshed and suffering but could spill over.

Q: There is a lot of talk of General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's Asia-Pacific initiative. If I recollect, the ideas proposed at Vladivostok were put in general terms rather than in any specific manner. How do you envision it? Like the Helsinki accord?

A: I can speak on broad terms as to what can resemble Europe and what cannot... We had a situation in Europe where there were an unprecedented number of weapons and some of the biggest armies in peacetime were lined up against each other. This was obviously dangerous. Also we had in Europe, an unprecedented infrastructure of bilateral and multilateral negotiations and relations as well as agreements. Both the sides created a precarious balance. In Asia-Pacific we have much more recently entered a stage of a threatening militarisation. You have the American fleet, sea-based cruise missiles in particular and we have our own response to this. You have other hotbeds of the arms race and tension. West Asia, the Gulf, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Korea, are all flashpoints.

So our thinking was that this is not normal, this can develop into a very dangerous situation. We must at least initiate moves to discuss security in this region as no one else has taken the initiative. Most of the countries in this area are not actually involved in the process of discussing arms control, disarmament, security issues. So we brought forward in Vladivostok this idea but not as an idea to create a mirror image of what has happened in Europe. By the way in Europe the idea came forward in 1965 and the treaty was signed in 1975, so it took quite some time but we brought it forward as an idea because we understand that there are many more conflicts here. Europe is more or less stable. Though you have revanchist forces in Germany and some other countries the Governments at least don't claim territories of other countries.

Here it is different. Everything is in flux, a very volatile situation prevails. We understand that it is much more difficult, there are many more countries, bigger regions, different systems etc. You need many more participants to start the process.

There are many people in the Soviet Union who believe that India can start the process and carry the torch so as to say and generate new ideas, but the decision is India's. We of course will discuss this with many countries and have already held consultations with Japan, People's Republic of China, etc. To once again state the issue, we don't want to impose on Asian nations some grand design of ours. We aren't so naive! No one can claim that we have any blueprint for so complex an arrangement that any Asia-Pacific security arrangement may involve. But we do think that we can't sit and watch the danger arising.

Q: The USSR has taken several steps to improve relations with the People's Republic of China. The U.S. has of course good relations with the PRC for some time now. Recently they have concluded an agreement for the transfer of some military technology and American ships called on Quingdao after Weinberger's (the U.S. Defence Secretary) visit. How do you envisage the situation developing?

A: You are again asking me of a country that I don't know much about. It takes a lifetime to understand a country as big as China, though I was there a year ago and I am very much interested as anyone. My feeling is that people who now play a role in Chinese policy understand that their country has a lot of things to do, a lot of problems to overcome, and I think and indeed I hope that they have made a list of their priorities. The highest on this list will be internal development, making up the gap between their under-development and the developed countries. They have not done badly in the past few years and I think they understand the need for a good international environment. I think in this sense they have a feeling that they understand that their relations with the USSR are of crucial importance, much greater than some military technology they import from the U.S. and I understand also that China has very complicated relations with its southern neighbours -- with Vietnam or India. But if my reading is correct about their understanding of their priorities then these problems can be solved especially in a broader context of Asian-Pacific security.

Q: There are some fears expressed in this country that since Indo-Soviet ties grew at the time of the Sino-Soviet rift, your rapprochement will result in some distancing of the USSR from India. However, the coincidence of the growth of Indo-USSR ties in the 1950s and the '60s with the Sino-Soviet rift is there.

A: We are against balance of power type of politics. We think it doesn't work these days. I have to answer this question very often in relation to Western Europe: Our policy doesn't aim to tear away Western Europe from the U.S. We are realists and we know that they have tremendous mutual interests, as well as a deep economic, political and cultural relationship. We want to build a good relationship with Western Europe, also with the U.S. and with China or anyone but not at the cost of our relationship with India which can play I think a very great role in the future, even greater than now. I think in general it (balance of power) doesn't work. It does so only in the minds of some arm-chair statesman like Kissinger.

The world is so interdependent now and so small that there is no place for balance of power games. I would be dismissive of this kind of logic. Our relations with India are very high in our priority not because we have bad relations with China.

The coincidence you spoke of, quite honestly, arose from the fact that we clearly misunderstood the nature of India's freedom struggle. We were in general very naive about what was happening in former colonies. Revolutionaries tend sometimes to be naive. So we thought that if it wasn't something like our own revolution it was not the real thing. [paragraph continues]

There was this misunderstanding but we came very early in the mid-fifties to the conclusion that our understanding was not correct and this changed our relations with India, not the fact that our relations with China were deteriorating. And now with Gorbachev we have reached a new stage in our understanding of the developing world. And this will be more pronounced now. It is not by chance or accident that Rajiv Gandhi was the first foreign statesman to be received by Gorbachev and I think that his state visit, aside from those to socialist countries, to India speaks about the importance of Indo-USSR relations.

We have tried to bring our political and military relations in line with this understanding of the world. It was not by chance that at the 27th Party Congress a new concept of security was brought forward; that security was not limited to the disarmament field; though this is very important it has to be pursued also in other fields -- political, which means accepting the principles of peaceful coexistence where you recognise the right of countries to decide their own path of development and also find solutions to regional problems and economic which includes the debt problem and the plight of developing countries. So we recognise that there can be no security if you don't seek solutions to these issues. So there are new concepts of security and we are actually witnessing just the beginning of this phase of the Soviet understanding the world.

KASHLEV ISSUES STATEMENT ON SECURITY, DISARMAMENT

LD191648 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1545 GMT 19 Dec 86

["Statement by the Head of the Soviet Delegation at the Vienna Meeting" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Vienna, 19 Dec (TASS) -- The concluding session of the first stage of the Vienna meeting of representatives of the states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe took place here today.

In his statement, the head of the USSR delegation, Ambassador Yu.B. Kashlev, noted that in the period after the Madrid meeting, as the discussion has shown, two tendencies in the approach of the participating countries to the problems of security in Europe and in the world as a whole were clearly revealed. The Soviet Union and the socialist countries embodied one tendency. Its landmarks were the program put forward in the statement on 15 January of this year on eliminating nuclear and other forms of mass annihilation weapons by the end of the present century; the bold and cardinal proposals by the USSR in Reykjavik; the unilateral cessation of nuclear tests by the Soviet Union (silence has held sway on our test sites for 500 days already); the large-scale proposals by the Warsaw Pact states on reducing armed forces and conventional weapons from the Atlantic to the Urals; and a number of others. Acting in the spirit of Helsinki, the Soviet Union stated its willingness to discuss the issue of the non-nuclear status of the Baltic Sea area, dismantled medium-range missile launching facilities on the Kola Peninsula, and a large part of them on the territory of the relevant military districts (okrug).

In the United Nations, socialist countries put forward proposals on the creation of an all-encompassing system of international security. All this is aimed at one objective -- to ensure a fundamental change in international affairs and to achieve radical improvement of the situation in Europe and in the world as a whole.

The second approach found its expression in the U.S. adoption of the "Star Wars" program and, drawing other countries into it, breaking off the accords that were outlined in Reykjavik and fully eliminating its consequences; in the continuing tests of nuclear weapons; in breaking the SALT II treaty, which curbs the arms race; and in undermining the foundations of the ABM Treaty. The U.S. policy in the Mediterranean region is seriously undermining all-European security, too.

The draft of the document on additions to the mandate of the Stockholm conference put forward by the PPR delegation will make possible a transition to practical talks within the framework of the CSCE on cutting armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe. It takes into account the profound interest which the West European countries are showing in reducing military confrontation in Europe. The NATO side has not yet undertaken serious steps in this direction.

International law issues relating to principles and humanitarian cooperation occupied a large and important place in the discussions.

The representatives of the United States -- a country that has carried out flagrant acts of direct aggression against Libya, Grenada, Nicaragua; that has trampled on the principles of the Helsinki Declaration, by which the member-states took on the obligation to be guided not only in relations with one another, but also in relations with other states of the world -- had no scruples about putting on a magistrate's robe and appearing at our meeting in the role of defenders of international law and order.

The discussion of human rights issues at the Vienna meeting, which diverted from the problems of observation of these rights and was used only for the purpose of confrontation, leaves an oppressive impression. The way proposed by the United States delegation leads to nowhere. Our task is to enable this meeting to take a step toward the noble goals laid down in the Final Act.

The U.S. delegation tried to continue this same confrontational line during discussion of specific issues of cooperation in humanitarian spheres.

The Soviet delegation hopes that reason, goodwill, and a general commitment to success will predominate, and that after the recess, we will together be able to engage in constructive work, the head of the Soviet delegation declared.

ZHOLKVER HITS REAGAN'S NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS

LD292031 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Political Observer Aleksandr Zholkver commentary]

[Text] President Reagan has made a New Year's address on the radio. Here is a commentary by our Political Observer Aleksandr Zholkver:

[Zholkver] In the part of the speech devoted to the international situation, the President's emphatic optimisim attracts attention. He declares that the past year was good for the cause of peace throughout the world and even for the progress of Soviet-U.S. relations. The White House boss finished his speech with the chorus from the popular U.S. song "That Was a Very Good Year". Well, what of it? Both a musical ear and optimism are praiseworthy humun qualities. However, as is known, neither the words nor even the song but the real facts are by far the most important things. For the Washington administration in the past year these were by no means so good.

Indeed, what has Washington been doing in the past year, which, as you recall, was declared International Year of Peace by the United Nations? Twenty-four nuclear blasts on the test range in Nevada; 50 new MX intercontinental missiles; 9 new nuclear submarines; 131 long-range bombers equipped wih cruise missiles; tests of antisatellite weapons in space and the buildup of conventional arms on earth; the raids by U.S. bombers on Libyan towns; flights by U.S. military transport planes with weapons for the contras in Nicaragua; and deliveries of U.S. weapons to Iran and the Afghan bandits and to the terrorist bands in Angola and Mozambique. Does the White House consider all this to be a contribution to the cause of peace?

As far as Soviet-U.S. relations are concerned, can the way Washington has behaved since Reykjavik really be regarded as helping progress, when the White House has started to disown not only the USSR's new proposals on nuclear disarmament, but also the previous Soviet-U.S. agreements on limiting the arms race on earth, and preventing one in space?

So, as far as the Washington administration's activities are concerned, it is difficult to recall the past year good for the cause of peace and for Soviet-U.S. relations. Nevertheless, on the threshold of the new year there really are grounds for optimism. For example, I have in mind the thoughts in the magazine MONTHLY REVIEW by 25 leading U.S. observers, scientists and experts on international affairs. Recognizing the consistency and constructive nature of the USSR's peace initiatives, from the Soviet moratorium on all nuclear blasts to the Soviet proposals on reducing both nuclear and conventional arms, they come to the conclusion that all is still not lost. Perhaps I can agree with this version of optimism.

BOVIN VIEWS REAGAN'S LAST TWO YEARS OF 'REIGN'

LD282138 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Dec

[From the "International Panorama" program; presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] There is Oliver North, a symbol in the United States. It is said that North is a very devoted supported, a fanatical supporter of the President.

There you have the irony of history. It is precisely with the name of Oliver North, or Ollie, as his friends affectionately call him, that perhaps the most disgraceful page in the political biography of the President is associated. The White House is now virtually under siege, and it is thought that after Irangate, Reagan will no longer be able to be his former self. He has 2 years left to reign, and perhaps less and less time to rule.

Well, you know that education and culture are not the President's forte, but as far as politics is concerned he is very energetic -- he is a very slick politician, he is very good at sensing the mood of people. Now he has become a victim of his own arrogance. He has reassessed his unsinkability, his invulnerability. This was also demonstrated by the elections to Congress at the beginning of November. A few days ago, the President said to Senator Dole, so aggrieved: People like me, but they don't believe me. There you have the President's self-criticism, if you please.

Well, of course, if there are no surprises of any kind, we still have a fairly long time to deal with this administration. Nevertheless, in my view, one ought to be thinking already about the post-Reagan period, and also tote up the political points for the period after Reagan. Well, what if Reagan stops being Reagan and agrees to begin disarmament? Well, that would be wonderful, but somehow dubious. I am afraid of something else. What if he slams the door? In Nicaragua, for example?

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA PROFILES CIA DIRECTOR CASEY

PM231155 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed article: "Untouchable Crook. Political Profile of CIA Director W. Casey" -- first two paragraphs are SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA introduction]

[Text] Who rules America? Who are the people who decide its destiny? They are well known. It is sufficient to open the "Who's Who" directory.... Government officials. Pentagon generals. Financial heavyweights. And yet, the answer would be incomplete. The CIA has to be added to "the powers that be."

This is the idea pursued by international journalists Yu. Kornilov and G. Shishkin in the book "Who Rules America" [Kto Pravit Amerikoy], due to be published by the Political Literature Publishing House. W. Casey heads the CIA. We offer his political profile to our readers.

It was at the end of June 1985 that L. Goldenson, chairman of the Board of Directors of ABC, Inc., one of the top three U.S. television companies, chaired for the last time a meeting of the corporation's shareholders and resigned his post. The reasons was that ABC, Inc. had been "taken over" for an impressive sum of money by the major Capital Cities Communication Incorporated conglomerate. On the face of it a commonplace deal for America, when a more powerful corporation swallows its competitor. But this was not quite so in this case. The point is that the founder of Capital Cities decision to acquire a parcel of shares giving it controlling interest in none other than ABC, Inc. was no accident. Casey had particular accounts to settle with ABC, Inc. Back in 1984 it dared to describe an undercover operation by Casey's agency -- the attempted assassination of a CIA agent for disclosing certain details concerning subversive activity by the "cloak and dagger knights" in Asia. [paragraph continued]

The Federal Communications Commission turned down a CIA demand for "sanctions" against ABC, but Casey threatened that he would find ways to impose silence on the television company.

Never before in America's history has there been such a boom period for the so-called U.S. "intelligence community" as during the Reagan administration, which took a course of exacerbating the international situation and elaborated the doctrine of "crusade" and "direct confrontation" with world socialism. The all-around activation and enhancement of the role played by this "community" and its nucleus -- the CIA -- were presaged by the very first Republican Party election platform, announced in 1980. On coming to power, the Republicans first and foremost freed the CIA (and the other special services) from "excessive tutelage" by Congress, then immediately started drafting a number of directive documents substantially expanding the special services' rights and spheres of operation. This was the goal pursued by the President's Executive Order No. 12333, signed back in December 1981, which emphasized that the CIA's "purpose is to conduct special actions approved by the President." There was total restoration of the CIA's "right" to engage in the subversive and, of course, completely unconstitutional activity that it had pursued earlier, the level of which was somewhat curtailed following scandalous revelations in the seventies. Only 6 months later — on 23 June 1982 -- Reagan signed a law aimed at protecting the U.S. intelligence services from "difficulties" involving the publication of data on their activity. Since then in the United States the threat of the harshest criminal persecution hangs over anyone who dares to publish materials on subversive activity by the special services or reports that a particular person may be on the staff of the intelligence services.

The White House did not just untie the CIA's hands, but also decided to put at the head of this agency a figure who could -- in practice and within the shortest possible time -- sharply activate one of the main tools for the implementation of Washington's global hegemonist schemes. The choice fell on William Joseph Casey. That was no accident. Casey is yet another representative of U.S. big business circles which have long and firmly established ties with official Washington. Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, U.S. undersecretary of state, and chairman of the Import-Export Bank Board under Nixon and Ford -- these are the stages of his career. Anticommunist, a millionaire whose assets have doubled in the last few years and are now in excess of $12 million; a major owner of real estate in Washington, Palm Beach, and Long Island; co-owner of the prestigious law firms of Hall, Casey, Dickler and Howley in New York, and Scribner, Hall, Casey, Thornburg and Thompson in Washington; and shareholder in more than 70 other firms, he has enjoyed Reagan's boundless confidence for a long time.

Since the "intelligence community" and primarily the CIA have now been assigned a special role by Washington, the prerogatives vested in Casey are beyond comparison with the prerogatives of his predecessors. Casey is the main adviser of the President and the National Security Council on "national intelligence" questions. He was given the rank of minister in an interdepartmental committee set up under the President where, together with the secretaries of state and defense, he participates in discussions of the most important political problems. He is also head of the CIA, which exercises operational control over the activity of all U.S. civilian and military special services.

The role assigned to W. Casey and the agency he heads, which engages in military, political, and economic espionage against more than 150 states, was emphasized by THE WASHINGTON POST in its 9 March 1986 issue: "This former international banker and lawyer occupies the top position among senior cabinet members, as a result of which he has become perhaps the most influential CIA director since Allen Dulles."

According to evidence cited by British journalist and writer B. Freemantle in his book "The CIA" (New York, 1984), the total expenditure by the U.S. "intelligence community" stood at no less than $10 billion a year in the early eighties, and by the mid-eighties had reached, according to U.S. press reports, 24 billion. Senator D. Moynihan noted that the CIA's budget "exceeds in size everything known hitherto in any country or in history." The number of CIA permanent staffers is in excess of 16,000 and continues to grow. B. Freemantle stressed that the CIA is "a powerful multinational business conglomerate," owning airlines and other transport companies, merchant fleets, banks, fashionable hotels, and radio and television stations. It is known, for example, that airlines like Air America, Civil Air Transport, and Southern Transport are nothing but covers for U.S. intelligence centers. About 60 firms providing covers for CIA agents are entrenched in Dade County, Florida, from where anti-Cuban propaganda and subversion operations are organized.

"The CIA director approaches his duties in a strictly practical manner: If the United States were to benefit from the secret information gathered by his agency, why should he personally not benefit?" -- THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE wrote. Hence, Casey -- as members of Congress were told -- sold $600,000 worth of shares he owned in oil companies right on the day before the price of these shares fell. It was established that Casey's efforts covered up unseemly financial dealings by ITT. It was revealed that Casey, together with other officers of the now bankrupt Multiponics agricultural company (New Orleans), is guilty of fraudulently receiving $3.5 million from small investors... It was established, for example, that Casey was also involved in the forgery of compromising material against Democrat J. Carter, which helped the Republican candidate's victory in the 1980 election. That, on taking office as CIA director, he "forgot" to report that as a lawyer he was handling cases for almost 70 clients and was the defendant in four civil actions, or that he had failed to place the shares he owned in trust, as required by regulations applicable to senior civil servants. That, in an attempt to evade taxes, he concealed a significant part of his property and that, being shareholder in a number of major companies which are secret suppliers of the CIA, he exploits his official position to supply them with profitable orders....

It is typical that the lion's share of equipment and technology orders for the CIA are placed with concerns and firms established in California. "There are few other sectors of the U.S. economy," the West German journal DER SPIEGEL wrote, "where the symbiosis of government and private interests is so little known and yet so manifest as in California's Silicon Valley, which houses most of the 87 California firms ranking among the 'Top 500' U.S. corporations.... All these firms are backed by big brothers -- the Pentagon, the CIA, the National Security Agency....

There is another interesting fact. Way back in the summer of 1979 the U.S. bourgeois press -- and not just a single paper but 25 of them at once -- carried an extensive militarist appeal calling for support for the government program for the creation [sozdaniye] of an ABM defense system. Who was it that issued such a bellicose appeal to the public? It was established that 14 of the 344 persons who signed the appeal (and, of course, paid for its publication) were directors, associates, or lawyers of firms already executing ABM contracts worth a total of more than 1 billion dollars; more than 20 persons were involved with companies which would have become subcontractors in the performance of these contracts if Congress had approved the relevant appropriations; and 20 represented firms among the top 100 weapons manufacturers. The initiator of the appeal's composition and publication was some "Citizen's Committee for Peace Through Security," founded by none other than the rich lawyer and Republican Party functionary W. Casey.

Voices demanding Casey's resignation have been heard on many occasions in the U.S. Congress in connection with public scandals. [paragraph continues]

Even though such demands have been made not only by Democrats but also by a number of Republican congressmen, including W. Roth (Delaware), T. Stevens (Alaska), and even such a rightwing reactionary figure as B. Goldwater, none of these demands has even slightly shaken the CIA director, who has been styled by a Washington newspaper -- not without justification -- Casey the untouchable.

One of secrets of the CIA chief's untouchability lies in the long-established, ramified, and firm ties he and his entourage have with the powers that be in America. For a long time now the CIA has been a kind of incubator and source of cadres for the top echelons of power in the United States: It is difficult to find a section at virtually any level of the U.S. hierarchical ladder, be it the White House, the Pentagon, the Department of State, or any other federal department, the Senate, or the House of Representatives, where key posts are not held by "CIA people," people who have undergone training the CIA, owe their career to that agency, or are most closely tied to it.

COMMENTARY DERIDES U.S.-HONDURAN 'OPERATIONS'

LD302329 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Viktor Ivanov commentary]

[Excerpt] Honduras and the United States have begun joint military exercises near the border with Nicaragua. Viktor Ivanov comments:

The war games are going to last 4 months. The several thousand Honduran and American troops involved in them will be engaged in building airfields and communication lines in an area adjacent to the border with Nicaragua. Next week another exercise will get underway in which army units will be airlifted from the United States to Honduras. That exercise is going to continue until May.

The past few years have seen quite a few military exercises in Honduras near the Nicaraguan border. The United States has, since 1982, been carrying out an extensive program for turning that Central American country into what can be described as a police station. All of Honduras is now covered with a network of army bases, airfields, communication posts, depots and communication lines, which can be used for combat operations. The United States makes no secret of the likely target for such operations. That target is Nicaragua, a country Washington has repeatedly threatened with a direct military intervention.

What is the aim of the current exercises -- the customary show of muscle or something more dangerous? They look very much like a well-camoflaged preparation for a surprise invasion. There have been quite a few alarming signs pointing to the worst. The U.S. Administration in the outgoing year markedly stepped up its undeclared war against Nicaragua -- militarily, politically, economically and ideologically. Formal support resumed for the contra rebels. [passage omitted]

If we look back on the war in Vietnam we shall see that the United States has, in relation to Nicaragua, passed all the stages that preceded its aggression in Indochina -- first money and arms, which were followed by military advisers. The next step was the landing of regular American Army units. As the Nicaraguans repel attacks by hostile forces they are sustaining heavy losses. In all, 34,000 people have been killed in Nicaragua over the past 5 years, an enormous figure for such a small country.

PRC REPORTS ON SHANGHAI DEMONSTRATIONS REVIEWED

PM291601 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

["Articles in the Chinese Press" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Beijing, 26 Dec (TASS) -- The demonstration by students of a number of Shanghai's institutions of higher learning held in the biggest city of China for several days are a key topic of the Chinese national press, among them the newspapers RENMIN RIBAO, GUANGMING RIBAO, BEIJING RIBAO, and others.

A report by XINHUA news agency from Shanghai published by the newspapers points out that during the student demonstrations, in addition to slogans on the need to improve the students' living conditions and material position and make changes to the organization of the teaching process, demands were made concerning a reform of the political structure in China, as well as demands for "broad democracy" and even "restructuring China's life -- Western style".

An article by a RENMIN RIBAO commentator, reprinted by other Beijing newspapers, says that "work to deepen the reform of the economic system under way in the country should simultaneously be complemented with a corresponding reform of the political structure. But this reform is a highly complex matter. It calls for prudence and carefulness. It cannot be affected all at once. The last few years have witnessed concrete steps and vigorous search in this direction".

In the years of the "Cultural Revolution", the newspaper writes, a handful of careerists and intriguers exploited the so-called broad democracy and under the pretext of launching "revolution" instigated masses, particularly students, to debates, demonstrations, protests, and pasting of "dazi bao".

History already proved that this kind of "broad democracy" sparked off unprecedented unrest and brought stupendous disaster to the state and the people. The younger generation of that time suffered most of all from this.

RENMIN RIBAO urges all those who show concern for a reform of the political structure, including students, to prevent the recurrence of the tragedy of the "Cultural Revolution".

"If some people erroneously assess the situation and instigate masses to effecting 'broader democracy' in an attempt to get rid of the party's guidance, stray from the socialist direction, and obstruct the work to implement the reform, they will fail to do it. All of them will reap the bitter fruits of their activity. A reform of the political set-up should be a self-refinement of the socialist system. It should be carried out under the guidance of the Communist Party of China", the article points out.

PRC RESEARCH SHIP ARRIVES IN ANTARCTICA

PM311145 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "To the South Pole"]

[Text] Beijing, 29 Dec -- The first Chinese special scientific research ship ("Polyus") has safely reached the southern continent after traveling more than 15,000 miles. It has conveyed to Antarctica 127 researchers who are to construct the "Changcheng" ("Great Wall") scientific station and begin fulfilling an extensive scientific research program.

This is the third Chinese scientific expedition to arrive in Antarctica.

PRAVDA RUNS ELECTION GREETINGS TO DPRK LEADERS

President Kim Il-song

PM311011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium congratulations to Kim Il-song on reelection as DPRK president]

[Text] To Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK:
Esteemed Comrade Kim Il-song!

We cordially congratulate you on your reelection as president of the DPRK. Your unanimous election to the top state post is recognition of your outstanding role in organizing the DPRK working people's struggle for the successful building of a socialist society and the country's peaceful unification on democratic principles. We are firmly confident that the traditional relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation between our two countries' parties, governments, and peoples will continue to develop and deepen unswervingly on the basis of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance and in accordance with the accords reached during the top-level talks in Moscow in October 1986.

We take this opportunity to wish you, Comrade Kim Il-song, good health and new successes in your noble activity for the good of the Korean people and in the interests of peace and progress.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Premier Yi Kun-mo

PM311013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[USSR Council of Ministers congratulations to Yi Kun-mo on appointment as DPRK premier]

[Text] To Comrade Yi Kun-mo, premier of the DPRK Administration Council:
Esteemed Comrade Yi Kun-mo!

Accept cordial congratulations on your appointment to the post of premier of the DPRK Administration Council. We wish you successes in your activity in this high post for the good of the Korean people and in the name of strengthening the traditional relations of fraternal friendship between the USSR and the DPRK and peace throughout the world. The USSR Council of Ministers.

Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam

PM311015 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[USSR Foreign Ministry congratulations to Kim Yong-nam on reappointment as DPRK foreign minister]

[Text] To Comrade Kim Yong-nam, DPRK minister of foreign affairs:

We congratulate you on your reappointment to the post of DPRK foreign minister. We wish you further successes in your activity for the good of the Korean people, in the interests of the further progressive development of friendly Soviet-Korean relations, and in the name of peace and socialism.

The USSR Foreign Ministry.

DRA'S NAJIB COMMENTS ON SOCIOPOLITICAL SITUATION

PM301255 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by correspondents A. Gorokhov and V. Okulov: "'Revolution Demands Action:' PRAVDA Correspondents' Conversation With Najib, General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee"]

[Text] Kabul -- We talked with Comrade Najib in his office in the building of the party's Central Committee, drank tea in accordance with the Afghan custom, and asked him about his recent visit to the Soviet Union, the situation in contemporary Afghanistan, and his personal destiny.

"The visit to the Soviet Union was an event of exceptional importance in the matter of further strengthening Afghan-Soviet relations," Najib said. "We also exchanged opinions on questions of reaching a political settlement around Afghanistan, achieving national reconciliation, and ensuring stability and security in the country. The talks were of an open and confiding nature. Only brothers can meet and talk with each other in this way..."

Our interlocutor is a tall, strongly built, charming man -- with the Afghan's usual shiny black mustache and an attentive and stern gaze. Comradely conversation is facilitated by Najib's predisposition toward making a point of holding regular meetings with journalists -- both Afghan and foreign.

"I grew up in Paktia Province, in the family of a state employee," Najib said. "In the sixties my father was Afghan consul in the Pakistani city of Peshawar, and the time during which I was growing up was marked in Afghanistan by an awakening of public awareness and the activation of political movements in various strata of society. The PDPA came into being in 1965, uniting progressive representatives of the democratic intelligentsia, patriotically minded officers, conscious workers, and youth movement activists. I too joined its ranks that year."

"You were elected general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee at the beginning of May 1986..."

"Of course, 8 months is not a long time. Although not everything is being done as we would like it, the chief trend has manifested itself during this time -- dynamism in solving urgent problems. A most characteristic feature of the past period has been the activation of the policy of strengthening the party ranks' cohesion, strengthening unity in the party leadership, and asserting the principle of collegiality. We want to have a strong collective of like-minded people, and the wider the circle of people actively involved in elaborating decisions, the better. To this end, membership of the Central Committee was almost doubled at the 19th plenum. Improving the style and methods of work is a complex matter. It includes measures to improve cadre policy, the provision of regular training for party cadres, and stronger ties between the center and the provinces. Daily reception of members of the population by the country's top leadership has been organized. It takes place in the (Delkusha) Palace, to which only recently people used to be denied access."

Let us supplement Comrade Najib's story. He tours the provinces and meets with workers, servicemen, party activists, and representatives of tribes, the clergy, and national minorities. We asked the general secretary to show us his weekly diary, which we had been told about at the Central Committee. In the diary, the week is divided up not just into hours but even minutes.

Implementing the party's strategy of broadening the social base of people's power, the Central Committee headed by Najib seeks at the same time to wage an active struggle against clannishness and the taking advantage of ties of kinship. In Comrade Najib's opinion, it has become an urgent task to step up monitoring of the fulfillment of adopted decisions and to prevent words and deeds from diverging.

"There is one law for all in the party," he emphasized. "Our aim is an uncompromising struggle for honesty and purity."

The general secretary's report at the recent 20th Central Committee Plenum resounded precisely in the spirit of critical analysis. The plenum discussed the party's urgent tasks and the process of broadening the revolution's social base.

"The idea of a new approach to strengthening the foundations of people's power," our interlocutor said, "is the key to solving our society's chief problems and, above all, to achieving peace and tranquillity. We actively seek paths of national compromise and are ready for it, even including the creation of a government of national unity. The people are tired of the war and the dushman brigandage. People are seeking to end the bloodshed, and it is the task of all serious and responsible politicians to help them in this. State organs throughout the country are not only waging a struggle against the gangs but also starting a dialogue with them. During the year almost 13,000 people have gone over to the revolution's side. They have laid down their arms. The time will come when peace jirgahs are held in every village. As experience has shown, we are able to widely involve representatives of public forces outside the party in the country's leadership. For example, the DRA Revolutionary Council, the Council of Ministers, and the National Fatherland Front Central Council have gained 133 new members over quite a short period. More than one-third of them are nonparty people."

We asked our interlocutor to assess the situation in the country.

"The year 1986," he said, "has been a year of the further normalization of the military-political situation and the implementation of major sociopolitical and economic transformations. More than 14,000 people's representatives have been elected to local organs of power and management. The draft DRA Constitution is being finalized and will be submitted for general discussion. The 5-year plan, which began in March, has made a good start. All production ministries are meeting targets for the first time. The 6-month plan in the state and mixed sectors was fulfilled by 110.8 percent. The contribution of land and water reform, we are elaborating the tactics and strategy of the PDPA's agrarian policy. This will make it more efficient.

"Work with tribes is being stepped up. Significant funds have been allocated to developing their chief settlement zone -- the border provinces. We are endeavoring to make better use of the peacemaking potential of the clergy, whose progressive section supports the people's power.

"We will strive persistently to fulfill the 5-year plan target of extending primary education to cover 65 percent of children. In a few years' time, the first postrevolutionary generation will start to actively join in the country's life. And we consider work with it a top priority right now, for it is the revolution's future mainstay.

"The combat potential of the Afghan Armed Forces is strengthening. The gangs have already felt this for themselves. Preconditions have been created for a cardinal breakthrough in events in Afghanistan in the revolutionary forces' favor.

Our task is to realize them. For this we have to solve many serious problems and overcome the inability and sometimes even the reluctance to reorganize.

"We are gambling on a political solution to the problem around Afghanistan. Extending the hand of friendship to the peoples of Pakistan, Iran, and other countries in the region, we say: Let us solve problems not by force of arms but by peaceful means."

To conclude the conversation, Comrade Najib returned to the topic with which it began.

"The friendship of our countries," he said, "is a friendship of peoples. And it has been tested by time. The DRA and the USSR have stood and will stand shoulder to shoulder."

Najib's parting shot was a vigorous exclamation:

"The revolution demands action!"

DRA DOMESTIC, FOREIGN POLICIES REVIEWED

PM301530 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[Vadim Okulov "Commentator's Column": "A Realistic Course"]

[Text] Kabul -- Increasingly broad strata of Afghanistan's population, including representatives of those who once succumbed to the lying propaganda of the forces of counterrevolution, are joining in the peaceful process of the country's economic and social development.

This is promoted by the multifaceted work of the PDPA and organs of state power. In this process, decisive significance is attached to increasing the combat capability of the Afghan Army, which has recently struck mighty blows against dushman gangs and bases in a number of the country's provinces, and also to the growing influence exerted on the military-political situation by the PDPA's course of national reconciliation. This realistic course is supported by representatives of a wide spectrum of political forces in the DRA and elsewhere. As a result, some 13,000 people have laid down their arms and gone over to the side of the people's power within a year.

The implementation of the program for restoring peace on Afghan soil is taking shape against a favorable sociopolitical background. Wherever the situation permits, elections are taking place to local organs of state power and administration. The DRA Constitution is being completed and will be submitted for nationwide discussion. The new 5-year plan, which began in March, got off to a good start. The contribution of private capital to the development of the country's economy has grown. The tactics and strategy of the PDPA's agrarian policy are being refined, which will promote the more effective progress of the land and water reform.

However, the development of the national democratic revolution is still a difficult and in many ways contradictory process. After critically evaluating what has been done, the PDPA set the task of increasing the responsibility of party members for bringing all progressive initiatives to a conclusion and stepping up the restructuring of party and ideological work in the interests of widening the social base of power and establishing peace and tranquillity in the country. The DRA, extending the hand of friendship to its neighbors in the region, makes persistent efforts to ensure that the problems surrounding Afghanistan are resolved by means of a speedy political settlement.

Full support for these efforts on the part of the DRA was expressed by the Soviet Union during the official friendly visit to our country by Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. The Soviet side stressed that the normalization of the Afghanistan situation would create the conditions for a return home by the limited coontingent of Soviet troops who are in the DRA at the request of the Afghan Government. The fact that the USSR's words do not diverge from its deeds is indicated by the recent return of six Soviet regiments from the DRA.

The response to this step and to the DRA leadership's constructive efforts toward national reconciliation could and should be the curtailing of all outside interference in the affairs of this independent state.

KABUL-HAYRATON HIGHWAY, TUNNEL WORK COMPLETED

LD252213 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0945 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, 25 December -- TASS correspondent German Baykov reports:

A festive ceremony took place at the mountainous Salang Pass today to mark the completion of reconstruction of the entire complex of road installations on the Kabul-Hayraton highway. Engineer Nazar Mohammad, DRA minister of public works, participated in this festive gathering of the Soviet and Afghan builders.

The great importance to Afghanistan of this transport artery, linking the center of the country with the frontier regions, is well known. The Afghan people call it the "road of life." Food, industrial goods, fuel, and other cargoes are delivered by way of the road from the port of Hayraton to Kabul and other regions of the country. The "key" to the road is the Salang tunnel, over 2.5 km in length, which passes through the Hindu Kush ridge at an altitude of about 3,500 meters. It was built with the help of the Soviet Union.

For many years the tunnel successfully coped with the tasks it had to fulfill, but in recent years the movement of motor vehicles was hindered due to the increased truck traffic. If was decided to carry out reconstruction of the technical systems of the Salang tunnel, to improve the ventilation and power supply, install automation in signalling systems and telephone and television communications, and to build new technical installations.

The Soviet specialists started carrying out this work at the end of 1984, and thanks to selfless labor in difficult mountainous conditions, they were able to accomplish the set task within a tight schedule.

Reconstruction of the tunnel's technical systems has made it possible to triple its capacity and bring this up to 1500 vehicles per hour, which fully solves the problem of uninterrupted transport of freight along the Kabul-Hayraton road. The reconstructed Salang tunnel is another bridge page in the history of Soviet-Afghan economic cooperation.

GORBACHEV RECEIVES ITALIAN CP OFFICIAL OCCHETTO

LD301710 Moscow TASS in English 1651 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev today received member of the leadership and Secretariat of the Italian Communist Party Achille Occhetto and had a conversation with him. The conversation passed in a friendly atmosphere characteristic of relations between the CPSU and the Italian Communist Party.

Meets With Ligachev, Dobrynin

LD302002 Moscow TASS in English 1838 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- Yegor Ligachev, a member of the Politbureau and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Anatoliy Dobrynin, a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today had a meeting with Achille Occhetto, a member of the leadership and Secretariat of the Italian Communist Party.

In the course of their conversation, which passed in a friendly and constructive atmosphere, the sides discussed key problems of today's international situation, the basic aspects of international developments since the Reykjavik meeting and some issues of Soviet-Italian relations and contacts between the CPSU and the ICP.

The sides exchanged information about the situation in the USSR and Italy. Yegor Ligachev and Anatoliy Dobrynin described the progress of deep-going reorganisation in Soviet society, the positive change in the process of its all-embracing renovation, change that is gaining momentum, difficulties and problems on that road, and also supplied detailed information on the CPSU's efforts to fulfill the resolutions of the 27th party congress.

Achille Occhetto described the situation in Italy and the activities of the Italian Communists to fulfill the resolutions of the 17th ICP Congress, and the role of the Communist Party in Italy and in the context of the European left forces.

Discussing international issues, the sides stressed the necessity further to expand efforts for peace, the development of democracy and a new international economic order, noted a vital need for peaceful coexistence of states with different socio-political systems and for the lessening of tension in international relations, and stressed specifically the role of Europe.

In this context the sides emphasized the need for make every effort to reverse the arms race, prevent the militarisation of space and seek concrete results towards a verifiable and balanced nuclear disarmament and towards a nuclear test ban.

INCREASINGLY 'SINISTER' U.S.-ISRAELI LINKS HIT

PM301635 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Glukhov "Commentator's Column": "Helping the Aggressor"]

[Text] Beirut -- American-Israeli working groups have held talks in Israel on "strategic cooperation." At the center of attention was the question of granting Israel the status of an American ally with "special privileges" -- a status enjoyed by the United States' NATO partners.

This status opens up broad possibilities for futher strengthening the militarist alliance of Washington and Tel Aviv. As Tel Aviv radio has reported, in addition to the already existing sources of appropriations, the Israeli military could gain access to a special Pentagon budget to the tune of $615 million -- to develop conventional arms.

So, the aggressive military-strategic alliance of Washington and Tel Aviv is taking on an increasingly sinister outline. Meetings of joint American-Israeli political and military working groups and cooperation between intelligence services have become routine. Pilots of the U.S. 6th Fleet are trained on Israeli test ranges in the Negev Desert. There are constant visits by ships of this fleet to the port of Haifa. Approximately 30,000 U.S. Navy sailors visited Israel in 1985 alone.

The average annual U.S. "aid" to Israel amounts to $4.5 billion. In addition to increasing direct subsidies, the weekly MIDDLE EAST TIMES points out, considerable military appropriations are disguised in the budgets of various American departments and establishments, including agricultural, medical, and scientific ones. Thus, in 1982, for example, tractors purchased with donations from the American Jewish community did not reach Israeli farmers. They were used to raze bombarded Lebanese villages in order to open up the way for the aggressor's tanks.

The opportunities for covert fattening of the Israeli military-industrial complex are expanding considerably in connection with its involvement in the multibillion-dollar "Star Wars" program. The first contract under that program worth more than $5 million was signed in November 1986. It is a question of the Israelis' developing [razrabotka] systems to intercept and destroy short-range missiles.

Israel is increasingly coming to the fore as American imperialism's strategic base and strike force in the eastern Mediterranean. The fact that Israel, in particular, is capable of mobilizing a 400,000-strong army in 72 hours figures in the Pentagon's Near East calculations. U.S. Senator R. Boschwitz, for example, has said this.

Israel's continuing occupation of southern Lebanon, the hostile anti-Syrian campaign, and blackmail on the part of the United States in alliance with Israel against a number of other Arab states -- all this is a direct consequence of the activation of the aggressive military-strategic alliance of Washington and Tel Aviv, which is jeopardizing peace and security throughout the Near East.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR MALI 5 DEC

PM101427 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] At the invitation of the National Assembly of Mali, a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by T.Kh. Koshoyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow for an official visit to Bamako on 5 December. The delegation consists of the following USSR Supreme Soviet deputies: A.P. Dumachev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Training, A.S. Reshetnikova, chief agronomist of the "Druzhba" Kolkhoz in Odessa Oblast, and A.S. Sukhanov, leader of a team of tunnelers of the State Administration of the Construction of the Moscow Subway.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by V.S. Shevchenko, deputy chairman of the USSR Soviet Presidium.

Visit Summed Up

PM171327 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 5

["On the Visit of a USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation to the Republic of Mali" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Excerpt] A delegaton of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by T.Kh. Koshoyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Kirghiz SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, visited the Republic of Mali 5-12 December 1986 on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the National Assembly.

During its stay in Mali the Soviet parliamentary delegation was received by Army General Moussa Traore, general secretary of the Mali People's Democratic Union [UDPM] and president of the Republic of Mali.

During their conversation, which passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere, views were exchanged on a number of topical international problems and questions relating to prospects for the development of Soviet-Malian relations.

The Soviet delegation also met and had talks with members of the National Assembly Bureau, a number of members of the UDPM Central Executive Bureau and the Malian Government, and also leaders of the Mali-USSR Friendship Society.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation visited Bamako, Koulikoro, and Segou, where it was able to acquaint itself on site with the efforts and achievements of the Malian people in strengthening the country's national independence and stepping up its economic and social development.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies briefed the Malian side on the active, purposeful work under way in the Soviet Union in the implementation of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and of the course toward of all-around acceleration of the Soviet society's development, which will make it possible to make maximum use of the advantage of socialism for the benefit of the people and the cause of peace throughout the world. [paragraph continues]

They briefed the Malian representatives in detail on the foreign policy activities of the USSR and the large-scale Soviet peace initiatives aimed at the elimination of nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons and the consolidation of peace and international security. [passage omitted]

The Soviet side reaffirmed its high opinion of the policy conducted by the Republic of Mali in the international arena and emphasized its considerable contribution to the consolidation of the Nonaligned Movement on an anti-imperialist and anticolonialist basis.

An exchange of information about the activities of the National Assembly of the Republic of Mali and the USSR Supreme Soviet and about their contribution to the consolidation of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and the Malian peoples took place. Satisfaction was expressed at the high level of fruitful Soviet-Malian cooperation in various spheres, which received a new impetus through the official friendly visit to the USSR of Army General Moussa Traore, general secretary of the UDPM and president of the Republic of Mali, in July 1986.

The representatives of the two countries' parliaments reaffirmed their readiness to continue to develop and strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation which exist between the USSR and the Republic of Mali, between the National Assembly of the Republic of Mali and the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Soviet and Malian peoples.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation invited a delegation of the Malian National Assembly to pay an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union. The invitation was gratefully accepted. The date of the visit will be agreed later.

The Soviet side expressed heartfelt gratitude for the warm and friendly welcome and hospitality shown the delegation during its stay in the Republic of Mali.

PARTY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM ZAMBIA 16 DEC

PM291641 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] On 16 December a CPSU delegation headed by A.N. Plekhanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Kurgan CPSU Obkom, returned to Moscow from Lusaka. The delegation was in the Republic of Zambia in accordance with the schedule for links between the CPSU and the Zambian United National Independence Party.

COSTA RICA REFUSES TO RETURN 'WAR CRIMINAL'

LD310803 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] A Costa Rican court has refused the demand of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs to extradite to Soviet authorities (Bogdan Mazyy), a war criminal guilty of Nazi crimes during World War II. The USSR Embassy in Costa Rica turned to the responsible judicial court with a request to reexamine the matter. The general prosecution of Costa Rica also appealed against the decision of the court.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON MELNIKOV DELEGATION CUBA VISIT

PM231001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for ties between the CPSU and the Communist Party of Cuba [CPC], a delegation of CPSU officials headed by A.G. Melnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the CPSU Central Committee Construction Section, visited the Republic of Cuba 10-19 December. It exchanged experience of party leadership in the capital construction sphere.

During the visit the delegation had talks in the CPC Central Committee Construction Section, a number of the provincial and municipal party committees, and the Cuban Ministry of Construction, and visited construction sites and construction industry enterprises where it acquainted itself with party organizations' practical work in the implementation of the decisions of the Third CPC Congress.

The delegation was received by L. Soto, secretary of the CPC Central Committee.

KONCHITS DELEGATION RETURNS FROM CUBAN VISIT

PM181353 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Delegation's Return"]

[Text] The Soviet military delegation headed by Colonel General V.N. Konchits returned to Moscow from Havana 16 December after participating in the festivities marking the 30th anniversary of the landing from the yacht "Granma" and the creation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba.

The delegation was met at the airport by R. Mirabel Fernandez, Cuban charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR.

CUBAN FORCES POLITICAL DELEGATION ARRIVES 14 DEC

PM161225 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On a Friendly Visit"]

[Text] A delegation of leading political workers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba headed by Division General R. Acevedo Gonzalez, chief of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces Central Political Directorate, arrived in the Soviet Union 14 December on a friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

The Cuban guests were met at the airport by Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and other political workers.

The welcoming party included R. Mirabal Fernandez, Cuban charge d'affairs ad interim in the Soviet Union.

Visit Reported, Ends

PM271511 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Dec 86 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Cuban Political Workers' Visit"]

[Text] A delegation of leading political workers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba headed by Division General R. Acevedo Gonzalez, chief of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces Central Political Directorate, visited the Soviet Union 14 through 21 December at the invitation of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

On 15 December Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, received Div Gen R. Acevedo Gonzalez.

Talks were held with Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. Participating in them were Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Colonel General V.S. Nechayev and Colonel General D.A. Volkogonov, deputy chiefs of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and other senior political workers.

At the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate and the Moscow Military District Political Directorate the Cuban comrades were familiarized with experience of party political work in the USSR Armed Forces and with political organs' activities in fulfilling the 27th CPSU Congress decisions. The Cuban political workers reported on progress in realizing the Third Communist Party of Cuba Congress decisions in the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

The delegation visited the V.I. Lenin Military-Political Academy, the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA editorial aoffices, Soviet Army and Navy cultural and educational establishments, and the Yu.A. Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center, and saw the sights of Moscow. The Cuban comrades visited the M.I. Kalinin Tatmansakya Motorized Infantry Guards Division, where a Soviet-Cuban combat cooperation rally was held.

The Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces delegation laid wreaths at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior.

The delegation left Moscow 21 December.

MOSCOW MARKS CUBAN REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY 30 DEC

FL302233 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1923 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] A ceremony devoted to the 28th anniversary of the Cuban revolution was held today in Moscow with the participation of representatives of USSR political and social organizations and Cuban diplomatic personnel. The speakers stressed that the revolutionary triumph has paved the way for economic, political, and social transformations in Cuba.

They also hailed the effort of our people in building a socialist society. Our country's role in the struggle for world peace and its close cooperation with the other socialist states were highly assessed.

Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of our party's Politburo and Cuba's ambassador to the USSR, praised the firm relations between the two countries which grow stronger daily.

LEADERSHIP CONGRATULATES CASTRO ON REELECTION

PM301637 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Council of Ministers congratulations to Fidel Castro on reelection as president of the Cuban Council of State]

[Text] To Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba

Dear Comrade Fidel Castro!

Accept cordial congratulations on your reelection as president of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba -- head of state and government of the fraternal socialist country.

This unanimous decision by the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Power is one more expression of the exceptionally high prestige and boundless trust that the Communist Party of Cuba and you personally have won in the struggle to achieve the country's genuine national independence and consistently implement the ideals of the glorious Cuban revolution. We are profoundly convinced that the relations of indissoluble friendship and all-around cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba and between our peoples will develop and strengthen from day to day.

We express confidence that the Cuban working people will successfully achieve the targets outlined by the Third Communist Party of Cuba Congress in the economic and social development of society.

We wish you new successes in your activity in this high post for the good of the Cuban people and in the name of peace and progress.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
The USSR Council of Ministers.

PRAVDA CITIES CASTRO ON CUBA'S SOCIALIST STRUGGLE

PM231645 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Speech by F. Castro"]

[Text] Havana, 22 Dec -- Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the republic's Councils of State and Ministers, has urged the Cuban working people to persistently raise the level of their professional training and education in order to comprehensively improve their work efficiency and likewise improve the quality of their work. [paragraph continues]

Speaking in Bayamo City -- the administrative center of Granma Province - at the opening of a printing combine, he once again raised a number of issues relating to the process of rectifying shortcomings and eliminating negative phenomena in the country's economic life -- a process that has developed in the republic at the appeal of the Communist Party.

The Cuban people, F. Castro noted, now have a full idea of what is meant by socialism. Our people have a revolutionary culture and awareness, and consequently the main task of today is to struggle to improve work to the utmost and achieve the highest possible socioeconomic results.

Expressing his confidence that, under the leadership of their vanguard, the Communist Party Cuba, the country's people will overcome all shortcomings and any difficulties arising on the path to creating a new society, F. Castro stressed in conclusion: We are and always will be revolutionaries and builders of socialism.

PRAVDA CITES CASTRO SPEECH ON DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS

PM291646 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Important Tasks"]

[Text] Havana, 27 Dec -- The successful resolution of the problems facing Cuba is a historic task for the Cuban people, Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and chairman of the republic's State Council and Council of Ministers, has stated. He was speaking at the 11th session of the National Assembly of People's Power, 2d convocation, which has just ended here, during the discussion of the draft integrated plan for socioeconomic development for 1987.

F. Castro dwelt in detail on the serious difficulties of an economic nature which the country has encountered in recent years. Recalling the steep fall in prices for sugar and certain other Cuban exports in the international markets, he stressed the urgent need to reduce imports and expand exports with a view to obtaining convertible currency which is needed for the successful development of the national economy and the supply of goods to the population. As a result of the sharp fall in currency revenue, for the first time in 27 years the country was unable to fulfill its international commitments. This situation was the cause of a new review of schedules for the payment of foreign debts, the Cuban leader said.

Despite these problems, F. Castro went on, 1986 passed normally on the whole, although the need arose to substantially revise next year's plan. The main efforts were aimed at not undermining the process of the country's economic development and not encroaching on the population's basic needs. Nonetheless, he noted, there will be certain limitations. The Cuban leader indicated that assistance in resolving this problem could not come from abroad. Cuba must resolve it by its own efforts and with its own resources.

F. Castro stressed the urgent need to implement a course of strict savings, including savings of energy resources. He cited the example of the sugar industry, whose enterprises, which formerly used some 500,000 tons of fuel annually to produce 5-6 million tons of sugar, today produce more than 7 million tons of sugar a year while having greatly reduced oil expenditure. Nonetheless, he went on, potential for further fuel savings exists in the country.

The Cuban leader dwelt on the consequences of unfavorable weather conditions in Cuba. The drought which has gripped the country since 1981 was especially severe this year. [paragraph continues]

Recalling the widespread construction of reservoirs and irrigation systems in the seventies, he pointed to the need to continue this work.

F. Castro devoted great attention to the measures which will be adopted in 1987 to conserve currency and achieve a domestic financial balance. He came out in favor of the accelerated completion of the construction of enterprises whose output will be able to replace imports from capitalist countries or will be exported to those countries. The Cuban leader also proposed a package of measures to strengthen the thrift policy. They include a significant reduction in the quantity of gasoline allocated to institutions, an additional expansion of textile exports, increased payments for electricity, increased retail prices for certain types of food, and payment for journeys on urban transport.

By way of compensation, pensions for various categories of working people will increase.

F. Castro stressed that rectifying the errors committed and eliminating the negative trends which have emerged is an important task facing the country. This is not only a moral and revolutionary duty, it is a vitally important economic necessity. The process of rectifying errors could lead to a tremendous increase in efficiency in the field of production and in the service sphere, he said.

The Cuban leader expressed firm faith that these problems will be successfully resolved. We have a party which numbers half a million people in its ranks, we have young people and mass public organizations, we have tremendous reserves, we have great experience. If we make optimum use of the available reserves and take account of the advantages of our relations with the socialist countries, we will be able to overcome these difficulties.

The Cuban leader expressed the profound conviction that the socialist sytem offers better opportunities for resolving any tasks. We have achieved much in past years. Today it is our responsibility not only to resolve our own problems, but also to set a good example of the means by which problems can and should be resolved under socialism. This is our historical task. I am absolutely certain that we are following the right path, he said.

RAUL CASTRO WRITES ON CUBAN MILITARY JUBILEE

PM081705 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

[Article by Army General Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba: "On the 30th Anniversary of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba: Guarding Socialism's Gains"]

[Text] Three decades of almost continuous war against Spanish colonialism, which began in 1868, followed by 6 decades of the Cuban people's revolutionary struggle against bourgeois governments in the service of U.S. imperialism conditioned the new stage in our country's history. It began with the storming of the Moncada Barracks and ended with the victory of the Cuban revolution.

This victory was the crowning achievement of the heroes of the Sierra Maestra which began with the historic landing from the "Granma" 2 December 1956. That date is commemorated as the anniversary of this event and the birth of the insurgent army, whose traditions are faithfully continued by the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] of the Republic of Cuba.

Hardly had the revolution taken its first steps than it had to oppose internal counterrevolution and the increasing aggressiveness of U.S. imperialism. The U.S. Government quickly switched from threats to hostile diplomatic actions, economic blockade, support for subversive gangs, sabotage, and attempts on the lives of the revolution's leaders. The United States even prepared outright military aggression.

The rebuffing of the class enemy's first attacks and the 5 years of incessant fighting until the last of the 179 counterrevolutionary gangs operating on the country's territory were annihilated; imperialism's first military defeat in Latin America, inflicted on it at Playa Giron 16 April 1961, when an armed attempt was made to stifle our revolution literally a few hours after the proclamation of its socialist character; the October 1962 crisis; repeated mobilizations in menacing situations; and the international assistance to other peoples, primarily Angola and Ethiopia -- these are the main landmarks on the glorious path traveled by the FAR.

Our regular army's main feature has always been its close ties with the masses. It is part of the great army of our entire people who in the past, in the ranks of the revolutionary people's militia, and now, in the territorial people's volunteer troops, the regular army reserve, and other formations created for defense, are loyal to Lenin's behest that no revolution is worth anything unless it can be defended.

This behest is never forgotten by the Communist Party and Cuban Government, which pay maximum attention to the FAR and all defense questions. This instruction is followed, skillfully applied to our conditions, by Comrade Fidel Castro, founder of our state and commander in chief of our armed forces, who said: "History shows all too clearly that those who forget this principle fall victim to their own mistake."

Whenever necessary, the armed forces together with the entire people have always made their contribution to resolving the important economic tasks and taken an active part in eliminating the aftermath of natural disasters. More than 1 million young people have undergone a real schooling of life in the army. Many leading cadres working in party organs and various sections of the national economy have emerged from the ranks of our armed forces.

The FAR today is a modern, powerful army in constant combat readiness. Special mobile units have been created which are ready for immediate combat actions. The high degree of mechanization of the ground forces should be noted. They have great firepower, high maneuverability, and the ability to wage independent combat actions even as small subunits. The air defense forces, the air force, and the Revolutionary Navy are equipped with modern armaments and combat hardware, enabling them to repulse the enemy swiftly and effectively.

The most valuable and crucial element of the FAR is its people -- the servicemen -- who receive good combat and political training and who possess a lofty spirit of patriotism and internationalism. Officers from the backbone of our army. Over 85 percent of the officers belong to the Communist Party or the Union of Young Communists.

The FAR and all the elements forming our defense have undergone special development in recent years, when extreme right-wing forces in the United States have taken over the reins of power. The Reagan administration openly declared a crusade against socialism. This situation meant that Cuba faced the increasing aggressiveness of its immediate northern neighbor, which was immediately expressed in an intensification of the threats, economic blockade, and ideological subversion, including overt radio warfare. The United States, which has been ceaselessly improving both quantitatively and qualitatively its military machine threatening our country, is now capable of mounting large-scale aggression against us without needing special preparation for that purpose.

Evidence of that is provided by the deployment at Key West -- the U.S. territory closest to our shores -- of the U.S. armed forces command in the Caribbean, which is well known by the name of "Caribbean Command." It is designed primarily to control the large forces and resources during the preparation and launching of possible aggression against our country.

We are not frightened by the growth in the real threat. On the basis of an objective assessment of our real defense potential, the Cuban people have deployed adequate forces and created the conditions to counter imperialism's military aggression in its various forms. Thus, the aggressor in his schemes should also take account of the extremely high price he will have to pay for a military adventure against Cuba. The ignominious defeat of the aggressor can be the only result of such an adventure.

All the colossal work aimed at strengthening the country's defense capability is centered on the Communist Party of Cuba, which has the leading role in formulating and implementing defense concepts and plans and in creating our entire defensive system. The party has paid and continues to pay unremitting attention to its cadres' military training.

The work done is a real feat in which the Cuban people have been the main driving force. However, when we look back at the path we have traveled, particularly now, on the day of our noteworthy anniversary, we recall with profound gratitude that all these achievements were made possible by the generous international assistance of the CPSU, the Soviet Government, the fraternal Soviet people, and their illustrious Armed Forces. In the past 25 years the USSR has given us the armaments and combat hardware necessary for our defense.

Thousands of Cuban officers have been trained in military colleges and academies in the Soviet Union. Soviet specialists who have worked in Cuba during these years have not only given us their wealth of combat experience but have also set an example of modesty, selflessness, and the communist internationalist stance of sons of Lenin's motherland.

The history of the friendly ties between the Soviet Armed Forces and Cuba's FAR is one in which the main role is played by brotherhood, courage, and common ideals, and these ties will never be weakened or broken.

The Cuban people passionately desire and struggle for peace and see it as the necessary condition for the continuation of the constructive creation of socialism. For that reason they fully support the efforts of the CPSU and Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of its Central Committee, aimed at ending the arms race on earth and preventing its extension to space.

However, so long as the threat of aggression exists, we shall not leave our country's defense unattended for a moment. It is a powerful deterrent factor which is based on the conviction that, for Cuba, the greatest victory of its weapons would be that historical development which rendered the use of those weapons unnecessary.

CULTURE OFFICIAL ATTENDS ARTISTS UNION PLENUM

PM251451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Artists and the Time"]

[Text] A plenum of the USSR Artists Union Board was held 24 December in Moscow. It was devoted to the tasks of the multinational detachment of artists in the light of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures To Further Develop Fine Art and Increase Its Role in Working People's Communist Education."

T.T. Salakhov, first secretary of the creative union's board, and the other speakers emphasized that the resolution is evidence of recognition of art's important role in our country and is a vivid expression of concern for the all-around development of the sociocultural sphere of life. Artists regard it as a large-scale, long-term program whose implementation will lift their creativity to a qualitatively new level.

Ye.V. Zaytsev, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Section, took part in the plenum.

OFFICIALS ATTEND SUPREME SOVIET COMMISSION SESSION

PM281717 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "In the Standing Commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Chambers"]

[Text] A joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities Commissions on Maternity, Child Development, and the Work and Life of Women was held 19 December.

The question of the work being done in Kemerovo Oblast to ensure observance of the requirements of legislation on the teaching, education, and preparation for socially useful work of children with shortcomings in their mental and physical development was submitted for their consideration.

Participating in the commissions' work were P.M. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities; and T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

DEMICHEV AWARDS HONORS TO ACADEMICIANS, ARTISTS

LD261903 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has conferred awards of the Soviet Union to a group of scientific and artistic figures and party and state workers at the Kremlin. Orders of Lenin and the Gold Medals of the Hammer and Sickle of Heroes of Socialist Labor were awarded to Academicians Likhachev and Sheremetyevskiy. The Order of Lenin was awarded to (Istolkos), corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The Order of the October Revolution was received by Dudarova, artistic head and chief director of the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra.

Orders of the Red Banner of labor, the Friendship of the Peoples and the Badge of Honor were also awarded.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government, Comrade Demichev warmly congratulated those awarded and wished them new labor victories to the welfare of the motherland in the coming year. Recipients of awards expressed their deep gratitude to the Communist Party and the Soviet State for the high appraisal of their work and confirmed that they will continue to give all their strength, knowledge and experience in fulfilling the tasks set by the party to the Soviet people.

SECTOR TRADE UNION CONGRESSES HELD

PM291611 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian on 21 December carries on page 2 under the headline "More Concern for People" a 1,200-word O. Chikhladze report on an undated Moscow congress of the Chemical and Petrochemical Industry Workers Trade Union. The report states:

"Participating in the work of the congress were V.K. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.G. Afonin, chief of the CPSU Central Committee chemical Industry Section; and leaders of ministries and departments. The congress was addressed by AUCCTU Secretary G.F. Sukhoruchenkova.

"The congress elected the new composition of the trade union's Central Committee and Auditing Commission and the delegates to the 18th USSR Trade Union Congress.

"A plenum of the trade union Central Committee elected V.K. Borodin chairman of the trade union Central Committee."

Under the same general headline the newspaper carries a 1,000-word O. Grigoryev report on an undated Moscow congress of the Timber, Paper, and Wood Processing Industry Workers Trade Union, which states:

"Participating in the work of the congress were I.P. Dyatlov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Construction Section, and leaders of ministries and departments. The congress was addressed by AUCCTU Secretary K.T. Turysov.

"The congress elected the new composition of the trade union's Central Committee and Auditing Commission and the delegates to the 18th USSR Trade Union Congress.

"A plenum of the trade union Central Committee elected M.V. Kuleshov chairman of the trade union Central Committee."

AUCCTU PLENUM ELECTS NEW OFFICIALS 29 DECEMBER

LD291754 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] A plenum of the AUCCTU took place today. Next year's budget of USSR trade unions and the state social insurance budget that is managed by the trade unions were examined.

Noting that social matters and the interests of working people should always be a top priority for trade unions, the keynote speaker, AUCCTU Secretary Sukhoruchenkova, and others who spoke, linked them closely with the restructuring tasks currently being carried out in the country's trade union organizations. Particular attention was devoted to the radical restructuring of trade unions' cultural and educational work and the introduction of effective forms for organizing people's leisure activities.

The plenum also examined organizational matters. In connection with his confirmation as editor in chief of the journal PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA, Comrade Subbotin has been released from his duties as secretary of the AUCCTU and member of the AUCCTU Presidium. The plenum released Comrade Bogatikov from his duties as AUCCTU secretary and member of the AUCCTU Presidium in connection with his retirement on pension.

The plenum elected Comrade Klochkov as AUCCTU secretary and member of the AUCCTU Presidium. He previously worked as secretary of the Moscow Obkom. Comrade Yanayev, who worked previously as deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, has also been elected AUCCTU secretary and member of the AUCCTU Presidium.

TRADE WORKERS UNION ELECTS NEW CHAIRMAN

PM251456 Moscow TRUD in Russian 25 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Trade Union Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A plenum of the State Trade and Consumer Cooperative Workers Union Central Committee has been held in Moscow.

The plenum examined organizational questions. O.F. Bogacheva was relieved of her duties as chairman of the Trade Union Central Committee in view of her retirement on pension.

G.N. Zamytskaya, who had previously worked as chief of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Trade and Consumer Services Section, was elected chairman of the Trade Union Central Committee.

V.P. Gusev, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Trade and Consumer Services Section, and AUCCTU Secretary V.P. Provotorov took part in the plenum.

ALIYEV, OTHERS SIGN THEATER DIRECTOR'S OBITUARY

PM301523 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 86 First Edition p 8

[Obituary of K.K. Ird]

[Excerpts] Soviet multinational culture has suffered a heavy loss. Kaarel Kirillovich Ird, outstanding director, member of the CPSU, Hero of Socialist Labor, People's Artist of the USSR, and USSR State Prize winner, is dead.

K.K. Ird was born in Riga in 1909. [passage omitted]

For over 40 years K.K. Ird headed the Estonian SSR's "Vanemuyne" State Academic Theater, which became one of the country's leading theaters under his leadership. [passage omitted]

[Signed] G.A. Aliyev, Ye.K. Ligachev, A.N. Yakovlev, K.G. Vayno, A.F. Ryuytel, B.E. Saul, Yu.P. Voronov, V.G. Zakharov, A.N. Aksenov, G.P. Anisimov, I.K. Arkhipova, A.A. Belyayev, O.P. Bunder, M.A. Voytes, I.O. Gorbachev, Yu.N. Grigorovich, O.N. Yefremov, Ye.V. Zaytsev, G.A. Ivanov, E.A. Kapp, E.O. Kerge, E.E. Klas, T.Ya. Kuuzik, P.A. Kuusberg, K.Yu. Lavrov, I.A. Lott, I.A. Naumenko, E.K. Okas, B.A. Pokrovskiy, R.E. Ristlaan, N.I. Sats, Ye.F. Svetlanov, Yu.Kh. Temirkanov, G.A. Tovstogonov, I.Kh. Toome, M.A. Ulyanov, T.N. Khrennikov, M.I. Tsarev, I.G. Sharoyev, R.K. Shchedrin, G.G. Ernesaks, A.Ya. Eshpay, Yu.Ye. Yarvet

NEW HEAD OF CINEMATOGRAPHY COMMITTEE APPOINTED

LD281552 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 28 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has appointed Aleksandr Kamshalov chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography.

A Russian by nationality and a party member since 1957, Kamshalov was born in 1932 and graduated the history department of Moscow University in 1954, after which he taught history at a secondary school and then worked as an YCL (Young Communist League) functionary.

Between 1962 and 1970 he was the YCL Central Committee's secretary for ideology and a member of the collegium of the USSR Ministry of Culture. From 1970 he was head of the cinematography section at the CPSU Central Committee's Culture Department.

Kamshalov is the author of several books dealing with culture and motion picture art.

Filipp Yermash has been relieved of the duties of chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography in connection with his retirement on a pension.

YELTSIN MEETS WITH PARTY SCHOOL OFFICIALS

PM271531 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Closer to Life and the Practice of Party Work"]

[Text] A 12 December meeting between B.N. Yeltsin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and professors and lecturers from the Moscow Higher Party School was devoted to the immediate tasks concerning the restructuring of the training of party and soviet cadres.

It was noted at the meeting that the stagnation, equanimity, and total isolation from the topical problems of reality and lively party work, which have been rooted for years in the school's practice, do not meet today's requirements. There is a lack of effective links with party committees and soviet organs in the city and the Moscow zone, and experience of party, soviet, and ideological work is not studied and generalized. The in-depth and creative explanation of practice is at times replaced by farfetched abstract schemes, petty examples, and secondhand information. The theoretical elaboration of new and acute problems is supplanted by attitudinizing and theorizing. [paragraph continues]

Students are inadequately involved in scientific research work and there is a shortage of topical research carried out at the Moscow Higher Party School. The school's Communists participate passively in the process of restructuring the city party organization's work. Serious shortcomings were noted in the training and further training of professors and lecturers. To overcome stagnation, not to wait for life to produce ready-made results, to study the facts, and to interpret them theoretically, making systematic use of the store of knowledge and accumulated practical conclusions -- this is what the city party organization requires today from the Moscow Higher Party School's potential.

It has to be noted that the school does have cadres who could head the work on its restructuring.

V.N. Shostakovskiy, new dean of the Moscow Higher Party School, was introduced to the school's professors and lecturers.

MOSCOW GORISPOLKOM DISCUSSES SPECULATION

PM281511 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Moscow Gorispolkom"]

[Excerpts] At its 16 December session the Moscow Gorispolkom examined the question of the state of affairs in the struggle against speculation and other types of unearned income in the city of Moscow.

Reports were delivered by P.S. Bogdanov, chief of the Moscow Gorispolkom Main Internal Affairs Administration; N.D. Ignatov, chief of the Moscow Gorispolkom Main Financial Administration; and V.N. Kudryavtsev, chairman of the Moscow City Soviet Permanent Commission on Socialist Legality and Maintenance of Public Order. [passage omitted]

B.N. Yeltsin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, took part in the ispolkom session's work.

SHORTCOMINGS IN PETROLEUM REFINING NOTED

AU241228 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 19 Dec 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Council of Ministers -- Intensifying Petroleum and Petroleum Products Refining, Paying More Attention to the Construction and Utilization of Gas Filling Stations"]

[Excerpts] The Ukrainian Council of Ministers Presidium has examined measures to intensify petroleum refining at the enterprises of the Ukrainian Main Administration of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry.

In recent years, a number of steps have been taken to increase the capacities for primary petroleum refining and for secondary processes. As a result of this, the republic's national economy has been better supplied with petroleum products, and the quality of these products has improved.

At the same time, the branch enterprises still have not made full use of the existing resources to improve the effectiveness of production. Facilities for the catalytic cracking of raw materials and for the production of petrobitumen do not work at full capacity, and this hampers the production of engine fuel, petrobitumen, and other petroleum refined products. [paragraph continues]

The reconstruction of existing technological facilities is progressing slowly, and so is the construction of new ones.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has obligated the Ukrainian Main Administration of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemichal Industry to take for guidance the decisions of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses and to invigorate organizational work in order to more effectively utilize petroleum by intensifying its refinement, by making wider use of scientific and technological achievements in production, and by improving the quality of petroleum products. [passage omitted]

The unsatisfactory situation in the construction and utilization of bottled gas filling stations in the republic was examined.

The Ukrainian Ministries of Construction and of Installation and Special Construction Work have failed to complete construction and installation works on schedule and to pass stations for precommissioning adjustments. The Ukrainian Gas Industry Association is slow in supplying gas filling stations with equipment, locking and regulating appliances, cables and pipes, in performing precommissioning adjustments, as well as being unable to settle problems that have emerged in the process of construction in an operative way.

Kharkov, Ivano-Frankovsk, Zhitomir, Khmelnitskiy, and Chernigov [illegible]polkoms do not exert adequate control over the construction and commissioning of [illegible]es.

There are serious shortcomings in the operation of the existi[illegible]ling stations, stations do not operate at full capacity, and due order has not [illegible]ntroduced in the distribution of vehicles to carry gas cylinders and gas cylinder e[illegible]ipment sets.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has obligated Comrades V.P. Salo and V.Z. Borisovskiy, ministers; Comrade V.P. Maksimov, chief of the Ukrainian Gas Industry Association; and Comrades A.S. Maselskiy, V.A. Boychuck, V.M. Yamchinskiy, A.N. Popernyak, and M.V. Grishko to take all steps necessary to radically improve the organization of the construction of bottled gas filling stations for motor vehicles and to put them into operation without fail.

Ukrainian ministries, departments, and oblispolkoms have been instructed to take immediate steps to better use the existing fleet of bottled gas motor vehicles and the capacities of gas filling stations which operate or are being put into operation.

SHCHERBITSKIY MEETS RURAL PARTY OFFICIALS

AU291306 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 20 Dec 86 p 1

[RATAU report: "To More Vigorously Restructure the Organizational and Political Work of Party Committees"]

[Text] On 19 December V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, met a group of rural raykom first secretaries who were undergoing training in the Higher Party School under the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

In a conversation it was noted that, in abiding by the directives of the 27th party congress, the CPSU Central Committee had taken persistent and consistent steps to restructure all spheres of public life. The economic mechanism is improving, a turn has been taken toward a radical settlement of social problems and toward the expansion of democracy in public life, openness is being consolidated, and the struggle against negative phenomena is being intensified.

As a result, the moral atmosphere in society has significantly improved, the activity of the working people has increased, and the pace of socioeconomic development has hastened. As far as the 1986 results are concerned, the republic will have met the average annual targets set under the 12th 5-year plan for the most important and, what is particularly valuable, qualitative indexes. At the same time, V.V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized, there are no grounds for placidity and complacency. The process of the restructuring is complex, and occasionally even difficult, both in the field and at the republic level. A significant number of enterprises fall short of the targets for the sales and contracted supplies of products, for raising labor productivity, for improving the quality of products, as well as for reducing production costs and material intensity. Slow use is still being made of economic levers to raise production effectiveness.

Particular attention was paid to further improving the leadership of the agro-industrial complex, and to organize the implementation of the CPSU Central Committee decision on the work performed by the Ukrainian SSR party, administrative, and economic organs to increase the output and procurements of grain in the light of the 27th CPSU Congress, and the decision adopted on this issue by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee plenum. It was also noted that party committees should keep under their constant control the tasks set for fulfilling social programs. These programs have to be amplified everywhere so that, by the end of the next 5-year period, the countryside may reach city standards in availability of comfortable dwellings, as well as social, cultural, and service facilities.

Questions concerning the restructuring of party work were topical in the conversation. It was noted that some party raykoms continued to substitute themselves for administrative and economic organs, to give commands, to bring forth many absolutely useless papers, and to require many references from the field.

Everyone has to realize once and forever, V.V. Shcherbitskiy noted, that it is impossible to accomplish the new tasks by old and obsolete methods. It is essential at all levels to increase responsibility, to enhance initiative, and to strengthen executive discipline. Party committees are expected always to keep cadre work in the center of their attention; such work is the key to the settlement of all problems. Today it is particularly important to break free from the captivity of routine, to define the main sectors, to distribute forces in the right way, and to give room to enterprising and energetic people who think and act boldly and in a nonstandard manner. After all, in the final account the success of all plans depends on the way basic party organizations perform.

At the meeting, particular emphasis was put on the responsibility borne by party raykoms and their first secretaries for the pursuit of party policy in the field. In their work, party committees have to be more purposeful, businesslike, able to conclude whatever they have initiated, more adherent to principles in cadre policy, and more responsible for accomplishing the adopted decisions. It is important to promote criticism and self-criticism, to consolidate collectivism and openness everywhere, to tighten links with the masses, and to intensify the people's political, class, and internationalist education. Particular attention was called to the need to encourage rayon papers to publish interesting, including critical, materials, and to create everywhere conditions favoring the creative work of journalists.

The floor at the meeting was taken by N.I. Chepurnoy, Cherkassiy Raykom first secretary in Cherkassy Oblast; U.N. Mostipan, Rokitnyanskiy Raykom first secretary in Kiev Oblast; and V. Ye. Streltsov, Verkhnedneprovskiy Raykom first secretary in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast.

Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy inspected the new classroom block of the Higher Party School under the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and familiarized himself with the learning and living conditions provided for the students.

SHCHERBITSKIY ADDRESSES PARTY, ECONOMIC AKTIV

LD262241 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] A meeting of the party and economic aktiv and leading cadres of the republican bodies of Kiev and Kiev Oblast was held in Kiev today. In the report of Kachura, secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian party, and in speeches, it was noted that in the national economy of the republic a set of measures are being introduced to improve industrial safety and safety equipment.

At the same time, it was noted that in the national economy of the republic a set of measures are being introduced to improve industrial safety and safety equipment.

At the sent time, it was noted at the meeting, in a number of industries there is still not a high level of safety. First and foremost, this concerns basic industries, the agro-industrial complex, capital construction, and transport. It was emphasized that as a result of irresponsibility, lack of discipline, and sometimes criminal negligence on the part of individual worker managers, an accident occurred at Chernobyl AES, the ferry "Admiral Nakhimov" crashed with a cargo merchant vessel, passenger trains crashed at Koristovka station, and there were a number of road accidents involving transport.

In the resolution adopted, the party committees and front ranking party organizations are recommended to decisively improve organizational and political work in labor collectives, in order to prevent industrial injuries and accidents. Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, made a speech at the meeting.

FURTHER ON PERM OBKOM DISCUSSION OF SHORTCOMINGS

PM301441 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 86 First Edition p 2

[Correspondent S. Ryabov report: "To Overcome the Force of Inertia. From the Perm CPSU Obkom Plenum"]

[Text] Perm -- What must be done to accelerate the pace of socioeconomic development in the West Urals? Which are the effective methods of work that party organizations should use, and which are to be abandoned? That was the subject of discussion at a Perm party Obkom plenum which examined the tasks of Communists in the Kama River region in the light of the CPSU Central Committee resolution on that body's report.

The discussion showed that the party obkom must radically change its style and method of work and face up to the problems which have slowed matters down for a long time now. Both the reports by Obkom First Secretary B. Konoplev and the speeches made by participants in the plenum cited more than enough facts to confirm this conclusion.

Let us take the economy as example. The Kama River region has a vast production potential which is increasing yearly. The value of fixed capital in industry alone today stands at almost R13 billion. But how efficiently is it utilized? The return on capital has been diminishing for more than 10 years, declining by 27 percent over this period. A recent inspection showed that the utilization of half of new and reconstructed projects during the last two 5-year plan periods has been below the planned levels.

The reasons? Primarily equipment standing idle and an inadequate workload for capacities. For example, one-fourth of all the oblast's enterprises operate only one shift. Even in machine building -- the region's key sector -- the shift index of automatic lines, machine tools, and assembly lines stands at 1.43, while one-third of the entire metal processing machinery pool is altogether inactive.

But why is it that industry, instead of accelerating, is often idling? It is remarkable: Everyone who mounted the plenum rostrum and spoke about restructuring inevitably identified this word with unity of words and deeds by party, soviet, and economic leaders. This unity is indeed in short supply.

Nor is it possible to justify the extremely slow pace of development in the economy's agrarian sector. In the last 5 years alone the state has supplied more than R2 billion of capital investment funds and appreciable quantities of material and technical resources, but output production volumes on most farms have simply failed to increase.

"Our agro-industrial committee headed by B. Levin approaches its work very timidly and cautiously," A. Bogdanov, chairman of Ilinskiy Rayon's V.I. Lenin Kolkhoz, said at the plenum. "We still have not sensed that the committee is a genuine steward [khozyain]. And party Obkom Secretary G. Laptev and officials from the section responsible for this sector evade the solution of long-term questions."

There is perhaps nothing else that reflects the standard of party and soviet organs' work as fully as their attitude toward the problems of housing and cultural, consumer, and municipal services for the population.

Could it be that there are no resources to solve these urgent questions? the speakers asked. And immediately replied: There are! The only thing that is lacking is a desire by those who head the sectors in question to create normal conditions for people's everyday life, leisure, and other requirements. And for some reason or other both the party obkom and the oblispolkom are totally reluctant to take officials properly to task.

L. Yesyunin, turner at the "Mashinostroitelnyy Zavod Imeni F.E. Dzerzhinskogo" Production Association, said:

"The wind of change still has not reached our leaders. Lubricating and cooling fluid still freezes on machine tools, just as it did 5 years ago. As for competition? Our shop's collective recently refused to sign the 1987 pledges for the production of molds in excess of plan. We are not at all opposed to additional output, of course. But after all, this does not require the some preparatory work and thorough preparation at all work positions."

The worker correctly spotted the "Achilles' heel" of those Communist leaders who are verbally ardent champions of everything that is advanced and deem it important to shake an innovator's hand for everyone to see in recognition of an idea but are the first to run for cover when matters come to specific actions.

The success of restructuring, the speakers noted, will be determined to a decisive extent by the speed with which we manage to shift the center of gravity of all work to the labor collectives and primary party organizations. It is there, at the front line, that the struggle to achieve the main objectives is being waged.

Much in this respect also depends on an active stance on the part of the obkom and its Party Organizational Work Section. It is high time to start assessing various primary party organizations not according to their reports or the promptness with which they convene meetings or pay membership dues (these are elementary requirements of the CPSU Statutes), but in terms of there prestige in the collective, their militancy, and their quest for and utilization of efficient forms and methods of work.

Everyone who spoke deemed it his duty to analyze various aspects of the party obkom apparatus' activity. Summing up these statements, it can be concluded that the obkom, its bureau, and its secretariat have simply failed to create a united front in the struggle for acceleration in all sections, that people here prefer, as in the past, to offer explanations for the numerous shortcomings and failures rather than to seek ways to eliminate them. Lack of initiative and fear of shouldering responsibility for the solution of fundamental questions -- these are highly typical of officials at the oblast party organization's top organ.

Let me cite just one example. Some 2 months after the departure of the commission which had been preparing material for the Central Committee, I called at one of the obkom's sectorial sections.

"What are we working on?", the deputy chief repeated by question and, sinking back into his armchair, muttered lazily: "We're resting for the time being. After all, no reports have been filed with the Central Committee yet. Time enough for the bosses to come back and set us tasks -- then we'll get down to it."

Just like a kindergarten group! The playgroup leader is putting on her coat, and she'll take us for a walk by the hand. We dare not take a single step without her. As if people in the section were not familiar with the 27th congress materials or CPSU Central Committee plenum resolutions, as if they were incapable of identifying and tackling the "bottlenecks" in their assigned section without prompting by their "superiors." What else but a red-tape, bureaucratic style of work by the apparatus can explain the fact that people here are insufficiently familiar with the operational situation at local level and that the activity of many party gorkoms and raykoms is given a clearly exaggerated assessment?

As a matter of fact, though, who are these section chiefs and inspectors to emulate in taking a critical approach to all sorts of negative phenomena? Follow the example of bureau members and secretaries? But they also go no further than castigating shortcomings in their reports and, furthermore, it is always the same party committees that are the targets of their verbal barrage. As for real assistance, effectively monitoring the fulfillment of adopted decisions, and rigorously taking to task those guilty of wrecking the work, people here -- as a rule -- have not time for that.

Let us ponder the following figures. More than 6,000 lecturers are read on atheistic topics in the oblast each year, and yet there has been no decline in religious rituals. There are 55,000 moral mentors in the oblast today, but the number of adolescents on the militia's files is already approaching 10,000. Communists in the Kama River region are united within 3,417 primary party organizations and 7,634 party groups, but nonetheless the curve of production discipline violations is declining extremely slowly.

The CPSU obkom, the plenum noted, and primarily Ideology Secretary V. Kotov and the Propaganda and Agitation Section headed by L. Pinayev, were found unprepared to meet the new demands made by the 27th party congress and by life itself.

Party committees still operate basically through their leadership structure and limited aktiv and do not reach the rank and file Communists and labor collectives. The mass news media offer them inadequate assistance in this. The press, radio, and television have not properly joined in the process of restructuring. The Kama River region's oblast press and many city and rayon newspapers have yet to offer working people a platform from which they can openly and loudly criticize the phenomena of stagnation, express their attitude toward instances of social injustice, and share their views on what it is that obstructs their own collective's efficient work. After all, now there are no "forbidden zones" for journalists.

The trade unions and the Komsomol often play the part of onlookers. Who else if not these organizations should tackle the development of mass physical culture and sports in the oblast? But what is actually happening? The number of stadiums and sports areas today has actually fallen compared with 1975. The reconstruction of Perm's "Molot" Hockey Stadium has been going on for several years now, and the end is still not in sight. It is a shame to admit it, but this year a city with 1 million inhabitants could not cope with running two volleyball courts at the young pioneers' stadium! And all this with the full knowledge of the party gorkom, its First Secretary V. Surkin, the Komsomol obkom, and the oblast trade union council....

More than 40 leaders from the obkom staff have been relieved of their duties in the last 18 months. "Failed to organize work," "Failed to live up to the collective's trust," "dismissed for abuses and moral unscrupulousness...."

It was said at the plenum that the serious errors in work with cadres can be largely attributed to the fact that the obkom and the gorkoms and raykoms give inadequate attention to the promotion pool. This is particularly valid in the countryside: Some 80 percent of farm leaders have been replaced within 5 years and, furthermore, 130 persons were relieved of their duties for having failed to cope with the work assigned to them or for having compromised themselves.

But how is the cadre process managed by obkom sections — the Agriculture and Food Industry Section and the Party Organizational Work Section? People here are very slow in getting used to democratic principles in the selection of leaders — appointment by election, the system of competition to fill vacancies, certification, and regular accountability to the relevant collectives. The speakers noted that these effective forms of work with cadres must be used much more widely and frequently.

And so the plenum revealed that the oblast has enormous potential for successfully resolving both current and long-term socioeconomic tasks. To activate these reserves and achieve precise and stable work along all avenues — this must be the fitting response by Communists and all working people in the Kama River region to the CPSU Central Committee resolution.

G.P. Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the plenum's work and addressed it.

PRAVDA STRESSES NEED FOR 'FRESH FORCES' IN PARTY

PM251325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Party Committee Worker"]

[Text] Letters to the editorial office contain many expressions of gratitude to party workers. They have helped one person obtain justice, they have encouraged and supported another at a difficult moment, they have trusted yet another to head a labor collective. For instance, Leningrad workers V. Irvin and N. Bessarabov sent the following cable: "Thank you, thanks to the newspaper we have learned how the leaders of major party organizations live and work. We can see that they have a reliable compass, namely the Leninist style. May they always and in everything be faithful to Ilich's behests!" And some readers, for instance, L. Zabelina from Yessentukov in Stavropol Kray, V. Ivanov from the city of Zhukovka in Bryansk Oblast, Yu. Litvinov from Irkutsk, and others ask the editorial office: "Please tell people about our first secretary. He is competent, strict, helpful, modest, and selfless."

To be a party committee worker... It is a high honor and great responsibility. The scale and novelty of the tasks make exceptionally high demands on their political and organizational activity. Resolving new tasks, they are called upon to restructure their own methods first of all and to restructure other people's. The personnel of Lipesk and Rostov Obkoms, Moscow and Leningrad Gorkoms, Timskiy Raykom in Kursk Oblast, and many other party committees are showing themselves to be vigorous and energetic in establishing the new style. They skillfully and creatively seek imaginative solutions and forms and methods of leadership. And this new approach is beginning to manifest itself in deeds.

However, not everyone is resolutely getting rid of the fetters of inertia. For instance, Perm Obkom, a CPSU Central Committee resolution notes, is continuing to display a mania for sessions and conferences. The obkom has been unable to create a united front of struggle for acceleration in all sectors of work and does little to ensure that the 27th congress' instructions and the open revelation of shortcomings are really asserted in every party committee and every primary party organization. The Voronezh Obkom is also slow to improve its style and methods of work. Instead of restructuring, there are general slogans and declarations. There is a superficial approach, administration by decree, supplanting and petty tutelage of oblast and rayon agro-industrial organs, and a reluctance to switch to genuinely scientific management methods. The party Central Committee deemed the obkom's organizational work to increase a production and purchases of livestock products in the present winter period to be unsatisfactory. Obkom First Secretary V. Ignatov has been strictly censured.

"You live and learn" -- that formula is also applicable to party workers. In order to keep your finger on the pulse of life and identify new developments in a timely way, it is necessary to increase your store of knowledge and master modern methods of party leadership. There are various forms of study. On-the-job training in republic Communist Party central committee and obkaom sections, reports at bureau sessions and plenums, trips to find out about advanced experience, membership of comprehensive teams sent out into the rayons. Discussions between experienced apparatus staffers and young ones also have much to offer. The important point is to avoid formalism here and the notorious "tick" indicating completion of a measure.

The party regards the scope and depth of the people's creativity as the decisive force in acceleration.

It is the vital duty of party committee personnel to value and support people with an innovative spirit, to provide scope for bold action, and to prevent their initiative, fruitful thinking, and inspiration from drowning in a morass of indifference and vanishing in a maze of bureaucracy. Unfortunately, even today some creative, questing working people find themselves in the position of outcasts, not masters of their enterprises. There are instances of suppression of criticism and reprisals over it. Such cases must everywhere meet with a principled party assessment.

Work with cadres and the education of people constitute the essence of party work. It is the main task of those to whom the lot of conducting professional work in the party has befallen to find, identify, and raise talented organizers. Lenin's appeal is topical even nowadays: "...It is only necessary to recruit young people more widely and more boldly, more boldly and more widely, yet more widely and yet more boldly, without fearing them." It is a matter of promoting more young people to leading economic posts and reinforcing party committees with fresh forces. The cream of the cream, people capable of organizing labor in the new way, must go there.

Anyone entrusted with working on a party committee must possess many qualities. The most important ones include the ability to attract people, approachability, and unity of word and deed. Only by living in the midst of the masses will he be able to win their trust and lasting authority. However, certain party workers are still unreachable by visitors, especially people with a sharp view on life, so-called "awkward customers." There must be more frank, direct, and honest discussion of the most acute issues. But in some places officials still prefer "platform" contact with people. Certain leaders, when they are planning a meeting at a collective, demand that notes be submitted in advance -- they are afraid of "tricky" questions. This practice cannot be tolerated today.

The party committee worker and his actions are always in the public eye. That is why the whole essence of his life must be a model of communist morality and ideological purity. As the 27th CPSU Congress noted, people link with him all the pluses and minuses of the specific, real life that they live. The ordinary working person judges the party committee and the party as a whole on the basis of the raykom, gorkom, or obkom secretary. It is necessary to resolutely get rid of those who do not value Communists' trust and have sullied the honest and pure image of the party member, as a recent Tashauz Turkmen Communist Party Obkom Plenum did by expelling from the party and relieving of his duties Obkom Secretary U. Shamuratov for fawning, suppressing criticism, and conniving at violators of party and state discipline.

Answering the PRAVDA questionnaire "The Time and Cadres," readers describe instances of immodesty on the part of certain party workers. One suffers from "villa fever," another allows the local press to feature his photograph virtually every day and to report that the first secretary has cut the ribbon at a construction project, visited a plant, the oblast philharmonic, a school... As though this were not his ordinary working day but some kind of important event.

The authority of the party committee worker is an invaluable asset. Respect is gained through labor and life stance, not handed out with office. The obkom, gorkom, or raykom secretary, section chief, and instructor should always remember that. The good name and high prestige of the party member certainly work in favor of restructuring and accelerating the country's socioeconomic development.

STATE QUALITY INSPECTORATES TO START 1 JAN

LD240945 Moscow TASS in English 0926 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 24 TASS -- Soviet industry is on the threshold of a major innovation: State quality inspectorates will be introduced at major enterprises on January 1, 1987. This means that the quality of output will now be rated not by in-house inspectors but by officials who will be independent of industry.

Quality is one of the more pointed economic problems. Emphasis has to be laid on quantity rather than quality after the Second World War, when the country lacked many products, from machine-tools to clothes. Yet at some point emphasis had to be shifted onto quality -- and that point was missed.

The ill effects are obvious both in heavy industry and in consumer goods production. During the first nine months of this year, for instance, retailers had complaints about the quality of 500,000 T.V. sets.

The press has identified many causes of a high share of defective output. These include poor production standards, large tolerances and outdated equipment. Another negative factor undoubtedly was that the wages of industry's quality inspectors depended on the gross output rather than on its quality.

The idea of state quality inspectorates originated in 1985, and such bodies were experimentally introduced at 19 enterprises in the country, those which were considered front-ranking. Yet even at those enterprises the newly established bodies began by turning back for upgrading up to 90 per cent of the output approved by in-house inspectors.

In a few months, however, things began to look up. During the first year of the experiment about 75 million roubles were saved through reduction in defective output (one rouble equals roughly 1.3 U.S. dollar).

The innovation will now be drastically expanded: In January quality inspectorates will be set up at 1,500 plants, primarily in engineering. Preparations began to be made last October, when 20 per cent of output began to be presented to inspectorates. The figure was raised to 30 per cent in November and to 70 in December. Now the "dress rehearsal" is over. Newspapers report that some plants have decided not to wait till January and already begun to present 100 percent of output to state quality inspectorates.

No one thinks, of course, that after January 1 things will go smoothly. Speaking on Central Television recently, Georgiy Kolmogorov, chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Standards (which is responsible for state quality inspection), warned against undue optimism. Preparations for the transition have run into difficulties in some places. Some plants can be expected to land in financial difficulties as a result. But there is no road back.

BAD WEATHER HAMPERS OPERATIONS OF RAILROADS

LD292319 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 29 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A difficult situation has arisen on the country's railroads in connection with the weather conditions. Commentator Aleksandr Tikhomirov speaks:

[Tikhomirov] Hello comrades. On 24 December, the day the country's railroad workers completed the annual plan for deliveries ahead of schedule and surpassed an unprecedented target -- 4 billion metric tons of freight in 1 year -- our film team was present at a hook-up conference of the Ministry of Railways. You possibly remember that report. In a short summing-up of the year's results, the minister on that occasion emphasized in particular that the railways were working in unison with the whole national economy.

Six days later reports are coming in from various regions that the railways have started to lose their rhythm. The reason is heavy snowfalls in the Ukraine, North Caucasus and the Volga valley, and heavy frosts in the Urals and Siberia. The schedule for railroad traffic is now being fulfilled by only 75 percent. On 27 and 28 December, it is reported, 15,000 railcars remained unloaded. In the ports of Ventspils and Klaipeda, 2,600 fuel tanks are standing idle, waiting to be unloaded, and 2,500 in Tuapse. The accumulated freight is freezing up, and with the present cold spell it will be even more difficult to unload if from the wagons in a few days' time. Unloading of railcars which have arrived at enterprises of the State Agro-Industrial Committee; the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, and the Ministry of Power and Electrification is going especially badly.

Today we got in touch with a number of enterprises of these ministries and the answer was this: It's winter, you understand. As if it was not known that a cold spell, that snowfalls come after a hot summer and after the fall. After all, so much has been said, too, about the necessity for excellent [corrects himself] that is necessary and essential to make preparations for the winter. Special decisions have been adopted by both the party Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers. There have been so many assurances and reports that they are ready. Well, the first check has shown that no, people are not ready everywhere. This is what the experience of these few days demonstrates. As before, the link-up of the railways of the Ministry of Railways with the spur tracks of the enterprise of other ministers is a weak point. Once again, there are interdepartmental barries. And the result is a vicious circle. For example, the Orsk-Khalilovo Metallurgical Combine has unloaded in these days only 484 of 1,051 railcars which have arrived at the combine. So it is itself losing the rhythm of delivering raw material for its shops.

And the second thing the experience has demonstrated is that in those places where preparations were made in advance there are no shortcomings -- on the Belorussian railroad, for example. I should recall that during a widespread experiment last year, over 12,000 people were released on that railroad for work in other industries of the natonal economy. And there everything is in order with the unloading of railcars and the movement of trains. That is, they are working with fewer people, and obviously all this is going on now because a favorable situation has arisen for them; they do not have to rely on anyone, they know that labor systems involving everybody will not help matters -- they do not have a surplus of people. So they prepared the equipment, drew up the schedules, and assigned each meter of the railroad in the collectives in advance.

And here is another thing the experience shows; in places where comprehensive methods for unloading work have been introduced, for example, the port railways in Leningrad -- much has been said for a long time about that experiment -- there are no bottlenecks. Winter is not terrible there.

We [word indistinct] Will return to coverage of these problems in the Vremya program. Today, too, our correspondent in Voronezh had already prepared a report at the (Likhaya) station about the struggle with snowdrifts on the railways, but unfortunately that report did not reach the Vremya program in time; we will show it tomorrow. We will return to this problem, we will talk about people.

Here is a figure at the end of the commentary: It is eloquent of the rhythm of the growing struggle, as it were, against the snowdrifts, and of the control over the situation on the railways. On 27 December, 40,000 people worked to clear the railways from snow, and on the 28th it was already 60,000.

MOSCOW TV COMMENTS ON WINTER, RAIL TRAFFIC JAMS

LD302359 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; talk by Political Observer Viktor Beketov]

[Text] Hello comrades! Representatives of various professions react differently to weather reports. So, farmers will be pleased at an abundance of snow in the fields, as a portent of a good harvest; on the other hand, transport workers -- railwaymen, truck drivers, airmen -- display alarm and unease. Snowdrifts and ice on the roads and landing strips wreck schedules, disrupt the rhythm of supplies, and create problems at enterprises and building sites. The situation has become particularly complex in the last days of the old year. It is as if winter is making up for the lack of snow this basically warm December, and has revealed its nature. The first serious frosts and snowstorms have caused confusion for certain managers.

It turns out that station and approach roads were not cleared in time, and winter shelters and freight had frozen up in a number of places. As a result, a large number of freight cars were not unloaded in the times allotted. Here are the latest data:

Accumulated on the country's railways are 29,000 unloaded freight cars. Among the ministries whose enterprises are holding up this unloading are the traditional leaders: the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Ministry of Power and Electrification, and the Ministry of Coal Industry of the USSR, who have recently been joined by the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee. Of the republics, the most freight cars were accumulated in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Georgia, in the Maritime and Altay Krays, and in Perm and Ryazan Oblasts. There is a difficult struggle going on with snowdrifts on the Volga railways, on the express routes in Siberia, and in the Urals.

At the same time there are examples of reliable, consistent work, of the kind being displayed by the collectives of the East Siberian and Krasnoyarsk railways. Exemplars of a creative and economical approach to the problem are being shown by the Belorussian railway workers.

This concerns the railways ministry, but railway engineers cannot do without the help of truck drivers. Freight must be taken at once to the railway stations, otherwise traffic jams build up. Such scenes can be seen in particular in Moscow, Rostov, and other cities. In order to avoid this, precise work is needed all the way down the chain. To put it another way, what we need is a conveyor belt which is well coordinated and works without interruption.

It is not out of place to remind you of these common home truths today, in the run up to the New Year festivities. The situation brooks no reduction of work rates, nor slacking, even on festive days: In fact, on festive nights too, might I add, since the freight throughput needed for the life-support system of the national economy must be unbroken round the clock.

The words "fickle elements" and "unforeseen circumstances" will arise now and again in reports, but it is somehow forgotten in all this that already one-third of the winter gas has been used, and the middle part of winter still lies ahead -- the frosts and blizzards of January. Thus there is no need to be in a hurry to use up the arsenal of excuses.

The main thing is to sort out the matter ahead of time, foresee the situation tomorrow, take the necessary measures beforehand, and not to forget the lessons of past winters. They have taught us this much — that it is criminal to fail to learn truths even if they are truisms.

PRAVDA VIEWS POWER INDUSTRY'S 1986 PERFORMANCE

PM301851 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[V. Pavlov article under the rubric: "Today Is Power Worker's Day": "Sources of Light and Heat"]

[Text] The plans for heat and electricity generation will be overfulfilled this year. Some 1,600 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity will be generated, which is above target. Hard, tireless labor lies behind this figure. It is perhaps impossible to recall in recent times such a serious situation as that which obtained in the power industry this year.

The sector and all of its economy was taught a severe lesson by the accident at the Chernobyl AES. The country suffered large losses in material and morale. The Chernobyle misfortune revealed serious shortcomings in the work of servicing personnel and scientific research and planning and design organizations. It brutally reminded people of the need for unremitting attention to be paid to safely at all power facilitis and above all at AES's. The whole country came to the sector workers' aid. And enormous amount of work which was unique in character has been carried out to clear up the aftereffects of the accident.

The temporary loss of the Chernobyl AES and the low water levels in a number of regions did not prevent sector workers from meeting the national economy's power and thermal needs.

An experiment to boost power workers' economic incentives for increasing the efficiency of TETS's has proven its worth. It has helped to substantially increase their output and to make up losses.

At present the sector is still lagging behind the targets set in the Power Program. The capacities of the Ekibastuz and Kansk-Achinsk thermal power complexes and of the Far East region are not growing rapidly enough. The task of developing electricity networks is being carried out too slowly. If the leeway is to be made up the achievements of science and technology must be introduced and the rate of construction increased.

The working rhythm of the whole of the national economy depends on the power workers. It is a great responsibility. Most collectives are justifying that trust. True masters of their trade and enthusiasts for technical progress are working at the Mary, Central Urals, and combined Surgut GRES's. Fine results have been achieved by the collectives of the Kuzbass, Lithuanian, Magadan, and Tajik power systems. The Kursk AES collective obtained the rated capacity of the fourth power unit ahead of schedule.

Power workers have quite a few problems, but they have repeatedly shown that they are up to the most difficult tasks. I think they will succeed in proving that in the future too.

KAZAKHSTAN WORKERS FULFILL SALES PLEDGES

LD241742 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Workers in Kazakhstan's agro-industrial complex, implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, have fulfilled socialist peldges for the first year of the 5-year plan for sale to the state of stockbreeding produce. More than 1.5 tonnes of livestock and poultry, 2.8 tonnes of milk, 2,300 million eggs and 57,000 tonnes of wool has been despatched to procurement points. Sales of produce to the state continue. The results achieved have been possible thanks to the adoption of extra measures in the republic to eliminate shortcomings and omissions which were noted in the CPSU Central Committee resolution on the work of party, soviet and economic bodies of the Kazakh SSR in implementing the tasks of the food program, guaranteeing accelerated and reliable development of livestock breeding, strengthening of the fodder base, improvement of work to introduce progressive working methods and intensive technologies, utilization of the experience of front-rankers, and invigoration of socialist competition among stockfarm workers. The republic's party, soviet and economic bodies are mobilizing labor collectives for organized over-wintering of cattle, for utilization of all reserves and opportunities to enhance productivity and efficiency of livestock breeding, and for unconditional fulfilment of the tasks of the second year of the 5-year plan.

SESSION OF VASKHNIL SIBERIAN DEPARTMENT HELD

PM291515 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 Dec 86 p 1

[TASS correspondent report: "To Be Introduced Throughout Siberia"]

[Excerpts] Krasnoobsk, Novosibirsk Oblast, 19 Dec — Only an exact scientific calculation and an awareness of prospects can act as a reliable compass to the farmer when choosing a strategy of action in Siberia's vast grainfields, which have been assigned an important role by the country's Food Program. This is where a major detachment of agricultural scientists — the Siberian Department of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences [VASKHNIL], which is called on to develop and introduce the scientific foundations of agriclture over the vast region — is at work. The main trends of the research conducted by it and the practical assimilation of its developments were the focus of attention at a session of the VASKHNIL Presidium held today in the scientific city of Krasnoobsk.

VASKHNIL President A.A. Nikonov opened the session. P.L. Goncharov, chairman of the Siberian Department's Presidium gave a report on progress in implementing the CPSU Central Committee Resolution "On the Work of VASKHNIL's Siberian Department To Fulfill the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers Resolutions on Increasing the Production of High-Grade Spring Wheat Grain Through the Intensification of its Cultivation". [passage omitted]

I.I. Skiba, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Section, and Ye.I. Sizenko, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, took part in the session.

RAZUMOVSKIY ADDRESSES NEW VETERANS ORGANIZATION

PM191245 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Dec 86 Second Edition pp 1-2

[TASS report: "Devoting the Soul's Inspiration and the Heart's Energy to the Motherland: Constituent Conference of the All-Union War and Labor Veterans Organization"]

[Excerpts] War and labor veterans... The Soviet people feel immense respect for and gratitude to these people. Their bright biographies are our motherland's living history, its honor and glory. But veterans never grow old in their souls. They are even today, in the midst of our active society, at the forefront of reorganization -- at the machine tool and in the field, in the lecture hall and the design bureau, in all sectors of communist building.

The veterans' revolutionary, combat, and labor potential are inexhaustible and are a reliable source of new ideas and achievements. Representatives of the older generations see it as their duty to devote all their knowledge and their tremendous experience still more energentically and fully to the party and the people.

The constituent conference of the All-Union War and Labor Veterans Organization [AUWLVO] was held in the Hall of Columns in the House of the Unions 17 December.

Those present warmly applauded the CPSU Central Committee greetings message to the participants in the AUWLVO constituent conference, which was read out by G.P. Razumovskiy, chairman of the Organizing Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He delivered a report on the tasks of the AUWLVO and the main directions of its activity.

Our conference, the speaker said, is being held at a truly historic time -- a time of a steep turn in the development of Soviet society which was begun and is being directed by the party in accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the 27th party congress. Restructuring is taking place in the country in all spheres of social life -- political, economic, ideological, and spiritual. Work on implementing the congress' strategic guidelines is confidently gathering momentum and acquiring ever greater scope and depth.

Striving for profound and qualitative changes in the development of society, the party consistently and persistently pursues a policy of further democratizing it and creating an atmosphere in which every person feels he is master of the country and profoundly responsible for the common cause. The creation of the AUWLVO is a constituent part of the major measures to enrich the forms of socialist democracy provided for by the 27th CPSU Congress decisions. This is a new manifestation of the constant concern of the party and the state for the older generations of Soviet people.

In our country, war and labor veterans enjoy deserved prestige and are surrounded by nationwide respect. Meetings with veterans in party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs have become a regular occurrence. Everyone remembers Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's cordial meetings at the CPSU Central Committee with front-line soldiers on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the great victory and with veterans of the Stakhanovite movement and production front-runners and innovators. There is profound meaning in the fact that this veterans organization is coming into being at a time of direct preparation for a glorious jubilee -- the 70th anniversary of Great October. For all the successes on the path of socialist building, of which we are rightly proud, are connected with the deeds of generations of Soviet people. Veterans are still in commission today.

Both the path traveled and the horizons that are opening up can best be seen from the height of life's experience. And this is a truly unique experience, which has enriched all mankind in the building of a new life. Compressed within it are the heroic achievements and the selfless labor of many generations of Soviet people -- those who stormed the Winter Palace and fought on the Civil War fronts, who raised the country from ruin and laid the foundations of socialism, who routed the enemy and worked valiantly during the Great Patriotic War years.

Veterans are now receiving into their ranks representatives of a generation molded during the years of Soviet power. They are those who, during the postwar period, rebuilt the country from the ruins, conquered the virgin lands and space, and vigilantly stood guard over peaceful creative labor. The Soviet people's unfading revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions are passed on like a baton from generation to generation. They form a living link between the past, the present, and the future. And this link will be more reliable and stronger if the experience, the knowledge, the will, and the entire spiritual potential of people of the older generations serve our common cause still more actively.

The veterans movement is becoming an increasingly influential force in Soviet society. An urgent need is arising to inject more topicality into the existing forms of veterans' participation in the economic and sociopolitical life of society -- forms which are proven in practice -- and also to introduce new ones. The new all-union organization is to serve these ends. Its formation is intended to complete, as it were, the organizational processes taking place in the veterans movement and, at the same time, to open up new prospects for this movement.

The chief tasks of the AUWLVO are formulated in the Central Committee's Political Report to the party congress. Involving people with tremendous experience of life in sociopolitical affairs and, above all, in educating the rising generations is placed at the forefront. The veterans organization must further promote in every possible way the development of social principles in various spheres of social and public activity. This is an important direction of the practical implementation of socialist people's power.

The overwhelming majority of veterans are restless people, sensitive to social needs and uncompromising toward shortcomings. Some people, particularly those who do not want to burden themselves with cares, dislike their pointed principledness and untiring determination. It is not such a rare thing to see a veteran come along with his sensible suggestions, opinions, or critical observations only to find people unwilling even to hear him out. This is nothing but an attempt to exclude from the restructuring process people with an active life stance. The veterans organization must break the ice of indifference toward veterans' sensible suggestions and opinions and seek to ensure that people of the older generation receive necessary support. The assistance of party organizations can always be relied on in these matters.

We should also think about better involving the veteran public with working people's letters, complaints, and statements and in generalizing people's opinions and suggestions on various questions. Many state and public organs and newspaper editorial offices have public reception rooms which are good at helping to resolve questions which arise locally. It is necessary to make wider use of this practice and involve experienced people, of whom there are many among veterans, in reception-room work.

The speaker emphasized that the participation of war and labor veterans in the military-patriotic and labor education of young people and in their ideological and moral tempering is the chief civic duty of people from the older generations today. We are rightly proud of our rising generation. [paragraph continues]

Soviet young people are successfully resolving major national economic tasks, constructing new cities, opening up the riches of Siberia, the Far East, and the Far North, and doing military service. At the same time, we cannot fail to be alarmed that, in the consciousness of certain young men and women, the cult of petit-bourgeois pragmatism and a consumer attitude to life sometimes eclipse the desire for spiritual enrichment and revolutionary romanticism. We frequently encounter manifestations of political naivete, carelessness, and complacency, and drunkenness and drug use among young people. A resolute struggle must be waged against such negative phenomena. And here the party counts on the assistance of veterans: Their sensitivity and human involvement in young destinies are of great significance in educating young people.

In addition to positive experience in work with young people, a considerable degree of formalism and overorganization has appeared in recent years. There is an obvious need to link the education of young men and women more closely with life, with the specific preparation of young people for productive labor and the motherland's defense. The AUWLVO is to help raise this work to a qualitatively new level. And, of course, it is important to conduct all work with young people in close contact with the Komsomol and with all state and public organizations involved in this great work.

The acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development is the primary aim of the party and the state, the all-embracing task of our society, the cause of each and every citizen, the speaker continued. This is undoubtedly a tremendous patriotic cause for all veterans too, to which they can make a considerable contribution.

The lowest pension age has been established in our country, and millions of people retain not only an enviable capacity for work but also the desire to work after they have passed that age. Good prospects have been opened up for veterans' labor activity in very diverse spheres -- in industry and construction, in transportation and the services sphere, in production of consumer goods and agricultural products, and in others. The scale and forms of veterans' participation in social production expand with every passing year. Some 12 million people who receive a pension are continuing to work now. The majority of them stay in their own collectives, where their high qualifications and rich professional experience have rightly won them deserved prestige.

I could name many labor collectives where there is well organized work on getting veterans to stay in production and where veterans are not just an additional work reserve but living vectors of professional skill and worker traditions. Veterans councils help in creating a favorable work regime for them, endeavor to select work for them in accordance with their wishes and abilities, and widely involve them in the leadership of schools of progressive experience, the training of novices, and mentorship.

Unfortunately, this approach has not been observed everywhere. The number of working pensioners would increase significantly if leaders of enterprises, cadre services, and trade union committees made full use of the potential of existing legislation and took a more flexible and considered approach to organizing their labor, responding to elderly people's wishes and potential.

There has recently been an increase in the number of pensioners involved in agricultural labor. Many kolkhozes and sovkhozes pay them a supplement to their pension at the farms' expense; the potential of elderly people is taken into account in organizing work, and in individual cases, links and teams of elderly people are set up. The speaker drew attention to the importance of veterans' labor on private plots and garden plots.

The country has a growing number of special shops and sections in conventional enterprises and also specialized enterprises where the necessary conditions are created for persons with reduced fitness for work. The home form of labor organization is becoming increasingly popular. The involvement of veterans in work on a cooperative, personal, and family basis is very promising. Such work is already getting under way. Favorable conditions for increasing the employment of elderly people in work that is useful to society are created by the USSR Law "On Individual Labor Activity," which indicates more than 30 of the most widespread kinds of trades and services in which veterans can apply their knowledge, skills, and experience. And this list can be extended in the union and autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts with regard to the population's needs, traditions, and particular national features.

There are very broad opportunities for involving pensioners in socially useful labor. The maximum use must be made of them. For society, the labor of pensioners means both additional workhands and a means of preserving and developing the personality of the veteran himself and his active longevity. Having absorbed the collectivist modus operandi from childhood, in his declining years too a person must be able to realize his aspirations in socially useful labor. And the all-union organization and its corresponding commissions can play an active role here. Everyone's labor potential must fully serve the homeland.

The report pointed out that one of the chief directions in the new organization's activity is concern for better satisfying veterans' needs. Under conditions when the process of improving the health of Soviet society is taking place and when our motto has become "More Socialism," and therefore greater humanity, everywhere and in everything, concern for old age and a respectful attitude to veterans constitute one of the leading elements in the party's strong social policy. The party and government have recently adopted important decisions on improving veterans' material and domestic conditions, organizing their rest and medical services, and extending deserved privileges and advantages. The minimum size of pensions is growing, and increased supplements have been introduced for a long and continuous period of work. A new law on the provision of pensions for working people is now being prepared, providing for a further improvement in labor veterans' living conditions and also incentives for their more active participation in social production.

The speaker emphasized that the scale of assistance to veterans becomes more extensive and appreciable when local soviet organs, trade unions committees, and the public more actively participate in this work. The AUWLVO is to take enterprising and principled stands on questions connected with improving consumer and medical services for pensioners and arranging their leisure. Of course, what is needed here is not signals and complaints but joint concerted work with interested organs on eliminating existing shortcomings, creating appropriate services, and ensuring the exemplary organization of work in them. It was pointed out, in particular, that the veterans organization must take control of boarding homes, in whose work there are many shortcomings. Enterprises and labor collectives sometimes exercise patronage in a formal manner. The government and AUCCTU resolution "On Organizing Boarding Homes for Labor Veterans of Production Associations (Enterprises)" is being fulfilled badly. Many ministries have remained aloof from this important state matter. Existing boarding homes are being provided with amenities and new ones being constructed in a manifestly unsatisfactory manner. The situation here must be rectified.

Veterans include many people of advanced age and single people. [paragraph continues]

Various ailments beset a person in his declining years, and he may become emotionally troubled. What is needed in many instances to alleviate them is not some material expenditure but simple human involvement, sympathy, and heartfelt warmth. None of these people must feel overlooked.

The problem of a person adapting from vigorous labor activity to a pensioner's way of life is frequently very complex on a psychological plane. Comradely support is particularly necessary here. To get through to everyone -- this must be the veterans organization's motto. The suggestions contained in letters sent to the organizing committee on the need to set up a wider network of veterans' clubs or centers merit support.

Dwelling on the work of the AUWLVO organizing committee, the speaker pointed out that the organizing committee focused attention on drawing up a draft charter -- the organization's fundamental document. Work was carried out on it on a broad democratic basis, and tens of thousands of veterans in all oblasts and union republics participated in it. The thousands of letters sent to the organizing committee attest to the Soviet people's active support for the proposal approved by the 27th party congress to set up an all-union veterans organization.

The new public formation will operate under the CPSU's leadership, enjoy all the rights afforded to public organizations by the USSR Constitution, and conduct its work on the basis of the creative initiative and independence of the veteran public in close cooperation with state organs and public organizations. The draft charter envisages that it should be organized on the territorial production principle. It will be based on the veterans councils being set up in labor collectives and at places of residence. Existing veterans formations are to become a constituent part of the unified veterans organization and be guided by its charter.

Taking into account the active nature of foreign ties and the membership of many international veterans organizations, it is deemed expedient to preserve the Soviet War Veterans Committee within the new organization, with its own charter and steering organs. It will function under the leadership of the All-Union Council of War and Labor Veterans.

The creation of the all-union organization opens up new paths for development and close cooperation with veterans organizations of the fraternal socialist countries and the establishment of contacts with other foreign public formations of war and labor veterans with a view to strengthening friendship and cooperation.

The present time -- a complex and tense time -- demands very vigorous and responsible action in defense of peace. The voice of Soviet veterans calling for a struggle against the policy of aggression and war and for the establishment of an atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding among the peoples must resound with weight and authority.

The political system of our society, G.P. Razumovskiy said in conclusion, is being supplemented by one more active link of the people's socialist self-management. The new organization is faced with many important and responsible tasks. [passage omitted]

AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev greeted the delegates to and participants in the constituent conference. [paragraph continues]

He emphasized that Soviet trade unions are among the founders of the new organization, whose aims, tasks, and structure meet the interests of every Soviet citizen and of our entire society. Conditions are being created so that no veteran is left outside the field of vision and attention.

The speaker particularly noted the fact that the all-union organization will cooperate closely with trade unions. More than 4 million mentors, including many labor veterans, already generously pass on their knowledge to young people, using their personal example to carry them along to patriotic achievements. Collectives have accumulated experience of arranging most favored status for elderly people wishing to continue their labor activity. Veterans are also taking an active part in drawing up the new law on pension provision for working people. An important aspect of further cooperation between trade unions and activists of the new organization is a package of questions connected with improving living conditions, medical, social, and consumer services, and the organizations of leisure. [passage omitted]

K.T. Mazurov was elected chairman of the All-Union Council of War and labor Veterans, and L.P. Lykova chairman of the All-Russian Council. Colonel General A.S. Zheltov was elected chairman of the Soviet War Veterans Committee.

MILITARY LEADERS SIGN RETIRED ADMIRAL'S OBITUARY

PM281654 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Dec 86 First Edition p 3

[Obituary of A.T. Chabanenko]

[Excerpts] Admiral Andrey Trofimovich Chabanenko, retired, has died in his 78th year after a grave illness. [passage omitted]

[Signed] S.L. Sokolov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev, A.D. Lizichev, V.N. Chernavin, I.N. Shkadov, N.I. Smirnov, P.N. Medvedev, K.V. Makarov, I.M. Kapitanets, S.P. Vargin, G.I. Salmanov, M.I. Druzhinin, F.A. Olifirov, R.A. Golosov.

EASTERN BORDER DISTRICT KOMSOMOL MEETS

PM311113 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 p 3

[KAZTAG report: "To Strengthen Vigilance and Combat Readiness"]

[Text] The 25th Komsomol Conference of the troops of the USSR KGB's Red Banner Eastern Border District has been held. A report on the restructuring of the district Komsomol organizations' activities in the interests of the reliable protection of the USSR State Border in light of the 27th CPSU Congress demands, and on preparation for the 20th Komsomol Congress was delivered by Major A.Y. Bakumenko, assistant chief of the district's political section for Komsomol work.

The report and the speeches by Major General I.K. Petrovas, chief of the district's troops, and others mentioned the need to intensify the border troops' education in the combat traditions of the older generations and to further reinforce discipline, vigilance, and combat readiness.